

Algerian envoy in Damascus

DAMASCUS (AP) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid dispatched his second-in-command Ahmad Massad to Damascus Tuesday and the emissary immediately went into conferences with Syrian government leaders. He met first with Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam and then with President Hafez Al Assad. Presidential palace spokesman Jibrane Kourieh said the talks dealt with "all important issues in the region." He did not elaborate. The Beirut newspaper As Safir earlier reported that Mr. Assad, Mr. Benjedid and Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi planned to hold a summit conference in the next few days. The newspaper quoted unnamed informed Arab sources as saying the leaders of the three Arab nations were discussing a final date and venue for the meeting.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرابطة

Libya said selling FIAT shares

TURIN (AP) — Libya is selling its lucrative holdings in FIAT, Italy's largest automaker and private employer, FIAT officials announced Tuesday night. The West German Deutsche Bank and the Istituto Finanziario Industriale (IFI), the holding company of the Agnelli family and FIAT's largest shareholder, agreed to buy the 15.9 per cent Libyan stake, according to the announcement. Terms of the deal were not immediately made public. There was no immediate comment or confirmation from the Libyan side. A spokesman for Premier Bettino Craxi on Tuesday night said the Italian leader "expressed his satisfaction and appreciation" at the news of the Libyan disinvestment. In 1977, FIAT, suffering from severe losses and labour problems, turned to Libya for help and the stake was bought by Lafico.

Volume 11 Number 3279

AMMAN, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 1986, MUHARRAM 21, 1407

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Churches plan Jerusalem assembly

JERUSALEM (AP) — Patriarchs, archbishops and high-ranking clergymen of Eastern Orthodox churches have been invited here next month to issue a call for world peace, a spokesman said Tuesday. The four-day meeting will include prayers at the major holy sites of Christianity and will end with a communiqué that the organisers hope to present to Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres, said Father Timothy, chief secretary of the Greek Orthodox patriarchate. The meeting was summoned in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, the cities of the "prince of peace," in line with the United Nations call to observe an international year of peace, he said in an interview. "We will not discuss politics. We want to bring peace through spiritual thought," he said.

Bassoumi takes post

TEL AVIV (AP) — Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassoumi officially took up his post in Israel Tuesday, upgrading relations between the two countries after a four-year chill. A police band played Egypt's national anthem as Mr. Bassoumi, previously the charge d'affaire in the Tel Aviv embassy, presented his letter of credentials to President Chaim Herzog.

Parliament lifts Mzali's immunity

TUNIS (AP) — The Chamber of Deputies voted unanimously on Tuesday to lift the parliamentary immunity of former Premier Mohammed Mzali, who was fired in July and fled the country earlier this month. The assembly, whose members all represent the ruling Destourian Socialist Party of President Habib Bourguiba, met in extraordinary session to take the vote, which opens Mr. Mzali to criminal prosecution on charges of illegally crossing Tunisia's frontiers. Mr. Mzali was premier and officially designated successor to the ailing 83-year-old president until his dismissal July 8. Since his secret departure, he has been reported to be hiding in Switzerland.

China signs \$2.5b nuclear deals

PEKING (R) — China on Tuesday signed contracts with French and British companies for a \$2.5 billion nuclear power station on Hong Kong's doorstep and opposed by many people in the British colony. A flourish of signatures by bankers, businessmen and officials on China's biggest-ever deal with foreign interests ended eight years of negotiations and uncertainty as Peking gave the green light for the Daya Bay plant.

Emirates launches cargo service

ABU DHABI (R) — Emirates, the new Gulf airline owned by the government of Dubai, will officially launch a cargo service on Wednesday serving six points in the Middle East and the Indian subcontinent, an official said. The airline has reached cargo agreements with several foreign airlines and now covers New Delhi, Bombay, Colombo, Karachi, Cairo and Amman, she said. Dhaka, London and possibly other European cities will be added later this year.

INSIDE

- * Rockets hit French UNIFIL HQ, page 2
- * Zarga to spend JD 2.283m on agriculture, page 3
- * Japanese may restore the sheen of gold, page 4
- * Halibut — of grapes, figs and resistance, page 5
- * Japanese dominates Asian swimming, page 6
- * Sterling plunges, page 7
- * Preparations begin for European security conference, page 8

France pledges to help Jordan's 5-year plan for occupied territories

Rifai meets French leaders and secures backing for all-party committee for int'l conference

PARIS (Agencies) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said on Tuesday France supported Jordan's five-year development programme for the Israeli-occupied West Bank and had pledged to contribute to the implementation of the plan.

Mr. Rifai, speaking to reporters after meetings with French President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, said the French leaders had not spelled out the form of aid they would offer to Jordan but had promised full support.

Mr. Rifai said he had delivered to President Mitterrand a message from His Majesty King Hussein, who was resting in London after a successful ear surgery.

The prime minister, who arrived here from London after a visit to West Germany, said he and President Mitterrand discussed prospects for peace in the Middle East and endeavours towards convening an international conference on the Middle East as well as the possible role Europe could play in the efforts.

The same topics were also discussed at a meeting Mr. Rifai held with Mr. Chirac on Monday, with special emphasis on the five-year development plan for the occupied territories. Mr. Rifai said the plan was aimed at enhancing the steadfastness of the Arab people under Israeli rule,

creating new job opportunities and helping them resist Israel's arbitrary measures and policies.

"We hope to get aid and support for this plan from European countries, the United States, Japan and other Arab and friendly nations," the prime minister said.

Mr. Rifai reiterated Jordan's firm position with regard to acts of terrorism and denounced as "barbaric and savage" the recent wave of bombings in Paris.

"Jordan condemns all forms of terrorism of any source and from any group," the prime minister said.

On the Middle East question, he said Jordan demanded the convening of an international conference to find a just and durable solution to the region's problem.

"Any preparation for the projected conference should involve all concerned parties since we are not seeking mere negotiations," he said. "We want to achieve peace."

Jordan Television, quoted Elysee Palace sources as saying

France supported the formation of a committee grouping representatives of all parties concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to prepare the ground for an international peace conference.

A presidential official said Mr. Mitterrand assured Mr. Rifai that France would work to "remove the obstacles that now block the formation of a preparatory committee on a general peace conference."

The official said Mr. Mitterrand had recalled his position in favour of a preparatory committee made up of the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Mr. Mitterrand also pledged that France would consult its European allies, particularly its Security Council partner Britain.

Mr. Mitterrand has supported the idea of a Middle East conference for several years but first came out in favour of Security Council members preparing the way during a visit to Moscow in July.

Later on Tuesday, Mr. Rifai and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, who accompanied the premier on his visit to Paris, returned home. They were received upon arrival by Cabinet members and senior officials.

Shevardnadze: Summit 'realistic possibility' if Reagan wants one

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Soviet foreign minister said on Tuesday that, despite U.S.-Soviet differences over "Star Wars" and nuclear testing, a superpower summit was a "realistic possibility" if President Ronald Reagan really wanted one.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze criticised Mr. Reagan's U.N. address on Monday as "regrettable" but added that the Soviet government was "far from regarding our relations with the United States as holding no promise."

"Lately, encouraging outlines of meaningful agreements have been emerging," Mr. Shevardnadze told the 41st session of the U.N. General Assembly. "A summit meeting is also a realistic possibility. We could move forward rather smoothly, if that is what the U.S. side wants."

Mr. Shevardnadze, in a response to Mr. Reagan's U.N. statement on Monday, said of the Americans' so-called strategic defence initiative: "It serves to conceal an attack against the main pillar of stability — the ABM (Anti-ballistic missile) treaty."

"The intention is to get the treaty out of the way within the timeframe of seven years. Everything is carefully calculated here, for it is precisely in seven years that they plan to prepare space weapons for deployment."

In his U.N. speech, Mr. Reagan, responding to a Soviet proposal to agree not to deploy such weapons for 15 years, offered a conditional

holding no promise. "Lately, encouraging outlines of meaningful agreements have been emerging," Mr. Shevardnadze told the 41st session of the U.N. General Assembly. "A summit meeting is also a realistic possibility. We could move forward rather smoothly, if that is what the U.S. side wants."

Mr. Shevardnadze, in a response to Mr. Reagan's U.N. statement on Monday, said of the Americans' so-called strategic defence initiative: "It serves to conceal an attack against the main pillar of stability — the ABM (Anti-ballistic missile) treaty."

"The intention is to get the treaty out of the way within the timeframe of seven years. Everything is carefully calculated here, for it is precisely in seven years that they plan to prepare space weapons for deployment."

In his U.N. speech, Mr. Reagan, responding to a Soviet proposal to agree not to deploy such weapons for 15 years, offered a conditional

holding no promise. "Lately, encouraging outlines of meaningful agreements have been emerging," Mr. Shevardnadze told the 41st session of the U.N. General Assembly. "A summit meeting is also a realistic possibility. We could move forward rather smoothly, if that is what the U.S. side wants."

Mr. Shevardnadze, in a response to Mr. Reagan's U.N. statement on Monday, said of the Americans' so-called strategic defence initiative: "It serves to conceal an attack against the main pillar of stability — the ABM (Anti-ballistic missile) treaty."

"The intention is to get the treaty out of the way within the timeframe of seven years. Everything is carefully calculated here, for it is precisely in seven years that they plan to prepare space weapons for deployment."

In his U.N. speech, Mr. Reagan, responding to a Soviet proposal to agree not to deploy such weapons for 15 years, offered a conditional

holding no promise. "Lately, encouraging outlines of meaningful agreements have been emerging," Mr. Shevardnadze told the 41st session of the U.N. General Assembly. "A summit meeting is also a realistic possibility. We could move forward rather smoothly, if that is what the U.S. side wants."

Mr. Shevardnadze, in a response to Mr. Reagan's U.N. statement on Monday, said of the Americans' so-called strategic defence initiative: "It serves to conceal an attack against the main pillar of stability — the ABM (Anti-ballistic missile) treaty."

"The intention is to get the treaty out of the way within the timeframe of seven years. Everything is carefully calculated here, for it is precisely in seven years that they plan to prepare space weapons for deployment."

In his U.N. speech, Mr. Reagan, responding to a Soviet proposal to agree not to deploy such weapons for 15 years, offered a conditional

holding no promise. "Lately, encouraging outlines of meaningful agreements have been emerging," Mr. Shevardnadze told the 41st session of the U.N. General Assembly. "A summit meeting is also a realistic possibility. We could move forward rather smoothly, if that is what the U.S. side wants."

Mr. Shevardnadze, in a response to Mr. Reagan's U.N. statement on Monday, said of the Americans' so-called strategic defence initiative: "It serves to conceal an attack against the main pillar of stability — the ABM (Anti-ballistic missile) treaty."

"The intention is to get the treaty out of the way within the timeframe of seven years. Everything is carefully calculated here, for it is precisely in seven years that they plan to prepare space weapons for deployment."

In his U.N. speech, Mr. Reagan, responding to a Soviet proposal to agree not to deploy such weapons for 15 years, offered a conditional



REGENT MEETS BRITISH TEAM: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday receives a visiting delegation from the British Royal College for Defence Studies (See page 3).

Israelis bomb villages near Beirut amid rising tension

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli planes staged bombing raids on villages in the hills southeast of Beirut on Tuesday amid rising tension in South Lebanon over fears of a fresh Israeli invasion and a Syrian warning of "stunning retaliation."

Local radio stations said at least eight Israeli planes attacked the villages of Baysour, Kaifoun, Aitai, Chemlane and a mental hospital at Aramoun, starting several fires. There were no reports of casualties.

Palestinian and Lebanese fighters fired anti-aircraft guns and surface-to-air missiles but they were all deflected by red heat balloons released from the Israeli planes, police said.

The Israeli army claimed in Tel Aviv that the planes hit "Palestinian targets" in the Damour area south of Beirut. The villages hit in the attack were in an area controlled by the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and their Palestinian allies, according to Beirut radio stations.

The raids followed reports from

South Lebanon that Lebanese and Palestinian fighters were on full alert for a possible Israeli invasion. Hundreds of Israeli troops, backed with helicopter gunships and tanks, were massed along the Israeli border on Tuesday and Israeli leaders threatened to send their army back into Lebanon to counter an increasing wave of resistance attacks against Israeli soldiers and the Israeli-sponsored South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad was earlier quoted as threatening a "stunning retaliation" if Israel invaded Lebanon.

The threat fuelled fears of a new military collision between Soviet-equipped Syria and U.S.-supplied Israel on Lebanese territory for the second time in four years.

"If it (Israel) attempts a new invasion, the retaliation will be stunning. It will be a surprise to all," Mr. Assad was quoted by the Beirut newspaper Al Hakika as saying.

The newspaper said Mr. Assad made his remarks during a meeting in Damascus with visiting politicians from Lebanon on Monday.

He said, however, the Israelis would not venture an invasion, but would "rather pound their targets with long-range artillery from their side of the border," the newspaper said.

Israel on Monday massed hundreds of troops backed by Merkava tanks, U.S.-made M-113 armoured personnel carriers and batteries of long-range artillery along its 80-kilometre frontier with Lebanon.

Israeli leaders said the reinforcements were ready to move in to help the SLA militia against an upsurge of guerrilla attacks (Israel refuses to end occupation, page 2).

Duty officers of the U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon said the Israelis made no move across the border on

(Continued on page 2)

Death toll rises to 9 in Paris bomb blasts

PARIS (Agencies) — The death of a policeman in hospital on Tuesday brought the toll from the wave of bombings in the French capital over the past two weeks to nine dead, with more than 160 injured, officials said.

Bertrand Gauthier, father of four children, died from severe burns without regaining consciousness since the blast in a restaurant on the Champs Elysees on Sept. 14 which killed another policeman outright.

Responsibility for the five bombings has been claimed by an underground Middle East group called the Committee of Solidarity with Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners.

The group has threatened more attacks if three convicted guerrilla leaders are not freed from French jails.

Several alerts against suspect packages disrupted services on the Paris underground system on Tuesday, officials said, and bomb disposal experts were called in. All proved to be false alarms.

Defence Minister Andre Giraud and top service leaders attended the funeral at the Invalides in Paris on Tuesday of Christian Goutierre, French military attaché in Beirut shot dead outside the French embassy there last Thursday.

President Francois Mitterrand promoted Colonel Goutierre posthumously to the rank of brigadier-general.

Police said Monday they had uncovered a cache of explosives in a forest east of Paris and an Iranian was charged in connection with the find.

They said Ali Abdollahzadeh Khosh Akhlagh, 25, who was arrested on Saturday, was charged with illegal possession of explosives and conspiracy.

The cache, which included 15 kilograms of explosives, 200 metres of fuse wire and a gun, was found 145 kilometres east of Paris near the town of Chalons-sur-Marne over the weekend after the Iranian was questioned by France's counter-intelligence agency, the Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire (DST).

It was unclear whether the find was connected with the series of bombings in Paris.

A statement received in the mail Tuesday at the Associated Press bureau in Paris claimed "all the attacks" in the name of the previously unknown "Ibrahim Abdallah cell" and said Abdallah's brothers had no role in the bombings.

Leniency backfires, page 4

1,000 attend National Front Rally, page 8

Peres claims progress on diplomacy but not on peace

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday he and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze have agreed to work on improving ties, but superpower tensions may stall broader Middle East peace efforts.

Mr. Peres spoke to reporters on his return from a nine-day trip to the United States and Canada which included a meeting with Mr. Shevardnadze on Monday at United Nations headquarters in New York. It was the highest-level contact between the two countries in 19 years.

Mr. Peres said the two leaders discussed the issues of Soviet Jewry and the Arab-Israeli conflict, but failed to bridge their differences.

"The two of us have agreed to try and take the necessary steps to normalise relations between the Soviet Union and Israel," he refused to elaborate, saying both men agreed not to discuss details of their meeting.

The Soviet Union broke ties with Israel during the 1967 Middle East war.

Mr. Peres said his talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan last week yielded little progress in prospects for Middle East peace.

Mr. Peres said he encountered U.S. readiness to advance efforts towards starting peace negotiations, but added that "it won't happen from today to

Gulf states reject U.S. troop protection

WASHINGTON (AP) — The secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) said on Monday that it would be a "kiss of death" for the U.S. troops to be deployed in their defence.

Abdullah Bishara told the National Press Club the GCC did not want the United States to intervene in its defence.

The GCC is made up of Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

"I think we in the Gulf have determination to defend our territories. Under no circumstances can we invite troops, guests, volunteers, half-volunteers," Mr. Bishara said. "This is a prescription for disaster."

"A call on foreign troops to defend our territory is the kiss of death," he said. "We (would) invite disaster. People who are unable to defend their territory and devote whatever resources for it and bleed for it are unworthy of survival."

He said the Gulf states had taken a conciliatory approach to Iran in the six-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

"We must have understanding with Iran. We must have coexistence," Mr. Bishara said. "We will never do anything which

is irrational. And inviting others to defend our soil is not only an irrationality, it is insanity."

He said the GCC states are beginning to build up their defence.

"We are now working day and night to enhance our defensive measures," Mr. Bishara said. "But there's one thing we cannot depart from and that's our defensive posture. We will never do anything that irritates."

Mr. Bishara also said fighting in the Gulf region could erupt into a major international crisis if the Iran-Iraq war is not controlled.

Mr. Bishara complained that a sense of "international complacency" had developed about the conflict.

He said it was partly due to his organisation's diplomatic success in preventing the conflict from spreading.

He said the United States had been supportive of GCC moves to initiate talks with Iran aimed at controlling the war.

Reuters adds from Riyadh: GCC defence ministers will meet in Muscat on Oct. 4 to discuss Gulf war attacks on shipping and security plans.

The meeting follows a rise in tension, partly caused by repeated Iraqi and Iranian attacks on shipping.

atmosphere, very much to the point."

Mr. Shevardnadze, speaking through an interpreter in New York on Monday, said he and Mr. Peres had discussed "very serious matters in a normal atmosphere, such as questions related to bilateral relations, questions related to the Middle East and some overall problems of international relations."

Referring to the Soviet call for a Middle East peace conference, Mr. Shevardnadze cited the successful outcome of the Stockholm talks on European security problems.

"We believe that the same prospects exist in the Middle East," he told reporters.

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi forces beat off two Iranian infantry and marine onslaughts on Iraqi positions in the southern Majnoon oil fields overnight Tuesday and the military command described the Iranian attacks as abortive "morale boosters."

An Iraqi military spokesman said Iranian infantry units and military boats laden with soldiers attempted to advance on Iraqi positions in the eastern isles of southern Majnoon Monday night.

The Iraqi forces opened up "merciless fire" on the attackers, destroying most of the unspecified boats and killing most of the infantrymen, said the spokesman.

Early Tuesday, Iranian boats and infantry units again "made a desperate attempt" against the same Iraqi positions, according to the communiqué. The Iraqi defenders finished off the majority of the attackers, and turned the boats and their occupants into "smouldering wrecks," it said.

An unspecified number of Iranian soldiers were captured, while the remaining survivors fled, said the communiqué.

"The situation completely settled in favour of our victorious forces," it added.

The southern Majnoon are a string of isles on the southern edge of the vast Huweizah marshes.

The area, an Iraqi territory on the border, was occupied by the Iranians in a 1984 offensive. The Iraqis have announced since then the recapture of parts of the fields, said to hold an estimated eight billion barrels of oil in reserve.

The fields have been capped and flooded with water since the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq conflict

(Continued on page 2)

Four Katyusha rockets hit French HQ in S. Lebanon

Gemayel: French pullout would be a disaster

MAARAKEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Four Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets crashed into the headquarters of the French contingent serving with the U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon Tuesday as troops were having breakfast. No casualties were reported.

Lt. Col. Patrick Dureau, operations officer at the French headquarters in this tiny village east of the port city of Tyre, said one of the 107-mm Katyushas slammed into the wire fence of the officers' mess at 6:40 a.m. (0340 GMT).

"Several troops and officers having breakfast were blown off their seats by the impact of the blast, but none suffered any injury," Col. Dureau said.

Two projectiles hit at 6:30 a.m. (0330 GMT) and the other two 10 minutes later. All exploded at the Maarakeh Command Headquarters of the 1,050-man battalion serving with the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), he said.

U.N. sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the four rockets were mounted under cover of darkness on launchers atop a hill about 700 metres east of the French headquarters. All four Katyushas were activated, by timing devices at daybreak, the sources said.

French soldiers were busy cleaning the Officers' Club from glass shards half an hour after the blasts. The club's eastern wall bore scores of gaping shrapnel scars.

The explosions came after the U.N. Security Council opened a debate at France's request on UNIFIL's mission in the wake of a spate of bombing and gunfire attacks that killed five peacekeepers and wounded 40.

The French contingent took the brunt of these casualties, suffering four killed and 33 injured since Aug. 11.

The French have been redeploying at less vulnerable positions in the U.N.-police area since Friday.

Two convoys were seen leaving

Maarakeh an hour after the Katyusha attack on Tuesday. Each was made up of two buses and four jeeps escorted by two armoured personnel carriers, one in front and one at the rear of the convoy.

Each bus carried 15 soldiers. One, who refused to give his name, said they were heading for the village of Jwaya at the south eastern tip of the French zone of operation about 15 kilometres south east of Tyre.

Jwaya is the hometown of many wealthy Shi'ites who built business empires in West Africa and bankrolled Justice Minister Nabih Berri's mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia.

Amal supports UNIFIL and has vowed to kill any guerrilla caught attacking the 5,800-man peacekeeping force.

Most of the attacks on the French were blamed by local security sources on Shi'ite extremist guerrillas of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God.

Hezbollah and Iran contend that UNIFIL shields Israel against guerrilla warfare aimed at dismantling a self-designated Israeli "security zone" in South Lebanon.

Security sources in South Lebanon say they believe the French have been targeted by Hezbollah because France is a main arms supplier of Iraq in its six-year-old war with Iran.

Hezbollah, however, denied in a statement published by several Beirut newspapers Tuesday that it was behind the attacks on UNIFIL.

"Rumours and statements accusing us of harassing the U.N. forces in South Lebanon are part of aggressive designs being

hatched to strike at the escalating Islamic fervor."

The statement declared Hezbollah was determined on the other hand to "carry on and escalate the war against Israel and its lackeys in the so-called security zone."

The 10-kilometre deep enclave was set up after Israel withdrew the bulk of its occupation army from Lebanon in June 1985.

It is controlled by the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army (SLA), a predominantly Falangist militia that had lately been the target of escalated attacks mounted by Hezbollah guerrillas.

Israel has moved hundreds of troops backed by tanks and artillery onto its northern frontier to aid the 1,000-strong hard-pressed SLA, which suffered 16 fatal casualties in recent guerrilla attacks.

Lebanese President Amin Gemayel was quoted Tuesday as saying any withdrawal of French U.N. troops from southern Lebanon would have disastrous consequences.

"Israel would reoccupy a part of the territory, a new exodus of population would submerge Beirut, fundamentalism would be exacerbated in the South," Mr. Gemayel said in an interview with the Paris newspaper Le Monde.

"If you give up here, terrorism will continue to follow you... terrorism is poisoning the existence of the international community. It has to be fought at the source."

Nine people have died in a wave of guerrilla bombings in Paris over the past two weeks.

A group calling itself the Committee of Solidarity with Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners (CSPPA) said it planned the Paris bombs and has demanded that France release jailed Lebanese guerrilla Georges Ibrahim Abdallah and two others.

Mr. Gemayel told Le Monde it was important to denounce the states that support terrorism. "Call them by their name, don't compromise with them," he said.

In another French newspaper interview published Tuesday, a pro-Iranian Lebanese leader said the wave of bombings in Paris and attacks on French troops in Lebanon had resulted from an impression given by France that it was the instrument of U.S. policy in the Middle East.

Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, a leader of Hezbollah, made the remarks to Le Quotidien De Paris from his home in Haret Hreik, a suburb of Beirut.

"France is paying the bill for American policy," Fadlallah said. "Many people think France acts as if it has been the executor of American policy in the region and that it has lost its independence in foreign policy."

In another Le Monde interview, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a denounced French media for what he called attempts to establish a link between his country and the Paris bombings.

He said he could find nothing that would bear out the thesis that Syria had ties with international terrorism or supported it.

In Beirut, Former Information Minister Michel Edde said in an interview published in several local newspapers he expected a new Israeli invasion if UNIFIL quit the area.

"The day this force withdraws, the South may turn into an inferno," the veteran Christian leader said. "I hope I am mistaken. The operations would take an immense dimension and include all areas."

Mr. Edde said it would be a repeat of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon and that the Israelis "would seek the occupation of an area 30 to 40 kilometres deep."

Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 in an effort to crush the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Political realities rule out the question of an Israeli invasion now," Sheikh Fadlallah told a rally near the eastern city of Baalbek.

"But the aim is harassment and to create a state of anxiety, panic and dissipation among the people in order that they may offer concessions," he said.

Lebanese Shi'ites on alert after Israeli border buildup

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Shi'ite Muslim fighters were placed on maximum alert in South Lebanon Tuesday after an Israeli military buildup on the border, witnesses said.

"We have been ordered to go on maximum alert after reports of a possible invasion," said a Shi'ite Amal militiaman at one of several checkpoints thrown across coastal roads at this southern city port.

Witnesses said that despite the militia alert, traffic was normal and most shops and businesses opened, despite fears of a second Israeli invasion in four years.

At the nearby village of Siddiqim, a leader of the radical, Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) shrugged off reports that hundreds of Israeli troops had massed in northern Israel.

At a village school partially destroyed two days ago in a rocket attack, which security sources said injured 13 people, Sheikh Abdul Monfih Mehanna described the buildup as a "publicity stunt to terrorise citizens."

"They are partial concentrations aimed at rebuilding the morale of the (Antoine) Lahd (pro-Israeli militia) army," he said.

The school was said by residents to have been hit by rockets fired from a nearby hill manned by Israelis and their allies of Lahd's "South Lebanon Army" militia.

Referring to the beleaguered U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), Mehanna said: "We don't trust the peace-keepers or the U.N. It's all a big lie and the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran is well-known."

Both Iran and Hizbollah have denounced U.N. Security Council Resolution 425 which established UNIFIL in 1978 to supervise an Israeli withdrawal and restore Lebanese authority in the South.

"UNIFIL cooperates with Israel 100 per cent," Mehanna said. "We do not welcome the peace-keepers but at the same time we don't attack them."

The nine-nation force has been attacked repeatedly, with the 1,500-strong French contingent apparently singled out by gunmen. Four French soldiers have been killed this month.

The latest attack was early Tuesday.

Mehanna said that if Israel invaded Lebanon again, Muslim fighters would put up all-out resistance. "Unlike the 1982 invasion, Israelis will face fierce resistance."

Meanwhile, Israeli military sources said the display of force along the border between the two countries appeared to have halted guerrilla attacks on the SLA.

The sources said radical Shi'ite gunmen had withdrawn from several Lebanese villages.

Israelis bomb villages near Beirut amid tension

(Continued from page 1)

Tuesday. "Their tanks still are at the border and their artillery remained silent," one duty officer at the Irish U.N. contingent said. "But SLA gunners lobbed about a dozen mortar rounds into a few Shi'ite villages within and north of the security zone. Nothing abnormal."

An Israeli push through its self-designated "security zone" in the south could bring the Israeli army dangerously close to Syrian lines in the southern sector of the Bekaa Valley.

Hezbollah, the most militant pro-Iranian Shi'ite faction in Lebanon, has gained strongholds

in that region at the slopes of Mount Hermon just eight kilometres north of Israel's "security zone."

Many attacks against the Israeli-allied SLA have been reportedly mounted by Hezbollah guerrillas into the "security zone" from these strongholds. There have also been attacks against the U.N. force.

Lebanese security sources said villagers were fleeing their homes at Yater and Kafra hamlets after Israeli gunners pumped heavy artillery shells into the vicinity. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Tuesday visited

SLA positions in the "security zone" established by Israel after it withdrew the bulk of its forces from Lebanon in June 1985.

He told reporters: "There is an increased (Israeli) presence in order to crush attempts to attack (SLA) outposts in the northernmost part of the zone."

The statement was the first official confirmation by Israel that it had moved more troops into the area to join hundreds that remained behind after last year's pullout.

A senior military official quoted by Israeli Radio said any movement of forces would be for a limited period.

Shevardnadze: Summit is a 'realistic possibility'

(Continued from page 1)

pledge not to deploy any space-based missile systems for at least 7-12 years.

Mr. Shevardnadze said: "The answer is simple: Whatever is done to conceal it, the so-called defensive space shield is being developed for a first strike. The first strike may become the last one and not just for the country which is attacked."

In an apparent allusion to Mr. Reagan's remarks about the arrest in Moscow of American reporter Nicholas Daniloff, who has been accused of spying, Mr. Shevardnadze said it was regrettable that the president used the U.N. forum "in such a way."

He did not mention the accused reporter.

Before his speech on Tuesday, Mr. Shevardnadze had a 45-minute meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz at the United Nations, but there was no immediate word of any progress on the Daniloff affair.

In an essentially low-key address, Mr. Shevardnadze spoke of an attempt to provide a philosophic rationale for an

assertion that new sophisticated war technology was capable of reliably ensuring security.

It was this philosophy that caused the tidal wave of armaments that now threatened to

crush the earth, he said.

"There is but one path to security — to destroy existing weapons instead of replacing them with new ones," he said.

Iraqis beat off Majnoon attacks

(Continued from page 1)

in September 1980. Iraqi officials said early September that the Iraqis were still occupying the northern Majnoon isles, while Iraqi forces were entrenched in the eastern, central and western isles of the southern Majnoon.

The communique issued by the Iraqi military command said the overnight Iranian attacks on Majnoon were "abortive attempts that serve as boosters to the collapsing morale of its (Iran's) forces."

The attack came a day after Iran again threatened a "decisive blow" against Iraq.

Ship rocketed

In the Gulf meanwhile, an Iranian helicopter gunship

rocketed a British-flag tanker.

Gulf-based marine salvage executives said the 1,220-tonne Pawnee was in ballast and sailing to the Saudi Arabian port of Ras Tanura when it was attacked.

The helicopter fired two rockets at the vessel's engine room, igniting a fire that the crew later extinguished, said the executives.

There were no casualties among the crew members and the Pawnee was able to sail under its own power heading for the Gulf port of Dubai for repairs, said the executives.

The vessel was attacked at 7:45 a.m. when it was 40 kilometres east of Basra — a southern Gulf island where Iran has a military base.

Iran has often sent helicopters from Basra to carry out its attacks on commercial ships in the area, the executives said.

Israeli, Chinese officials discuss ties

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A senior Israeli official has held talks with Chinese representatives in Paris aimed at establishing political ties between the two countries, Israeli officials said Tuesday.

Avraham Tamir, director general of the prime minister's office, met the Chinese representatives last week, one official said.

The talks came after Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met in Alexandria this month and proposed an international conference on Middle East peace that would include all the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Peres said Tuesday that China could not participate in such a conference unless it established diplomatic relations with Israel.

"The Chinese may be warning to the idea of relations. They see the Soviets are moving and they don't want to be left out if anything happens (on an international conference)," one official said.

China and the Soviet Union are the only members on the Security Council without formal ties with Israel.

The official said any improvement in Israel-China ties would probably come gradually and begin with limited representation through respective interest sections.

Israel television reported Monday night that Israeli officials would travel to China soon to sign an agriculture and energy cooperation agreement.

Private Israeli companies have for years discreetly traded with China on a limited scale, but no official accord exists between the two countries, the report said.

On Monday Peres met Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the United Nations for the first high-level talks between the two countries in two years and said they discussed re-establishing diplomatic relations.

Last month Israel and the Soviet Union held consultative talks in Helsinki at Moscow's initiative.

The cooperation agreement with China will allow Israeli companies to operate in China in the fields of agriculture, energy and infrastructure, the report said.

China has never extended diplomatic recognition to Israel and has said it will not recognise Israel until it withdraws from all the territories occupied by Israel during the 1967 Middle East war.

China has taken steps in recent years to improve relations, including the issuance of visas to Israeli passport holders.

In May, telephone links between the two countries were established. The arrangement was initiated by Israeli businessmen with interests in China.

At least \$2 billion of contracts have been signed over the past year between Israeli companies or their European subsidiaries and the Chinese government, according to an Israeli businessman with extensive dealings in China. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

Israel rejects to dismantle Lebanon buffer zone

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Israel has rejected a proposal to move U.N. peace-keeping troops from its "security zone" in southern Lebanon closer to Israel's border in a bid to stem local attacks that have cost the lives of French and Irish soldiers.

Responding to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's proposal, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli delegate, told the Security Council: "The basic problem in Lebanon has always been the absence of a central authority that is able to prevent lawlessness and terror."

Netanyahu said the deployment of the force, known as UNIFIL, was irrelevant and that anyone claiming otherwise was misinformed or had an ulterior motive.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar made his proposal in a report to the council last Friday following an inspection mission to the area by Undersecretary General Marrack Goulding, his senior British aide.

The report drew a critical response from Israel.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar told Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres in a meeting last Saturday that while he did not blame Israel for the

attacks its presence in southern Lebanon provoked them.

Netanyahu said Monday the existence of an Israeli "security zone" was not the cause of the attacks on U.N. troops and if the force were to be moved up there would be more hostilities on both sides of the frontier.

If Israel were to withdraw from southern Lebanon, that region of northern Israel would once again face terrible violence, he said.

"We are not going to lead our hand to that calamity. We will have to continue to do what is necessary to protect the lives of

our citizens," Netanyahu said.

Rachid Fakhourey, the delegate of Lebanon, replied that Israeli intransigence and insistence on occupying a part of Lebanon threatened the future of UNIFIL and the peace and security of the region.

He appealed to council members to adopt all measures necessary to insure the safety of the force and enable it to carry out its mandate. There was no justification for continued Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory and Israeli support for "puppet forces," he said.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	23:30 News Summary 23:45 Evening Show Continued 23:57 News Headlines 24:00 Close Down
PROGRAMME ONE	
17:00 Koran	
17:30 Om and Cheese	
17:30 Cartoons	
18:00 Documentary	
18:30 Space Voyage	
18:30 Brewer	
19:00 Local programme	
19:45 Cairo Message	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 Local series	
21:00 Varieties	
21:30 Western	
22:00 News in Arabic	
22:30 News in Arabic	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:30 "Des chiffres et des lettres"	
18:30 French series "C'est pas la vie"	
19:00 News in French	
19:15 Aujour'hui en Jordanie	
19:30 News in Hebrew	
19:45 Your Living Book	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 Three's Company	
21:00 Planer for the Taking	
22:00 News in English	
22:30 Moon Stone	
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & party on 95.60 KHz. SW Tel: 773111-19	
07:00 Light Music	
07:30 News	
08:00 Morning Show	
08:30 News Summary	
08:45 Morning Show Cont.	
11:00 Pop Session	
11:30 Songs from Movies	
12:00 News Summary	
12:30 Pop Session Cont.	
13:00 News Summary	
13:30 Pop Session	
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:30 Jordan Weekly	
14:45 Your Health	
15:00 Concert Hour	
16:00 News Summary	
16:30 Instrumentals	
16:30 Old Favorites	
17:00 Jordan Weekly	
17:30 Pop Session	
18:00 News Summary	
18:30 Over a Cup of Tea	
18:30 Music	
19:00 News Desk	
19:30 Date with a Star	
20:00 Evening Show	
21:00 News Summary	
21:30 Evening Show Cont.	
21:45 News Summary	
22:00 Evening Show Continued	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	SERVICE CLUBS
EXHIBITION	
An exhibition of sculptures by Salem A. Madaniga at the French Cultural Centre (until Sept. 25).	Lions Amman Club , Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
CULTURAL CENTRES	Lions Palestine Club , Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Royal Cultural Centre: Tel: 6610267	Philadelphian Rotary Club , Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
American Centre: Tel: 644371	Rotary Club , Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
American Centre Library: Tel: 644370	Royal Automobile Club , Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle, Tel: 815534, 817534.
British Council: 6361478	
French Cultural Centre: 637009	Churches
Goethe Institute: 641993	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel: 624590.
Soviet Cultural Centre: 644035	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luwibdeh, Tel: 637440.
Spanish Cultural Centre: 624049	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hreik, Tel: 661757.
Turkish Cultural Centre: 639777	Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Jabel, Tel: 623541.
Haya Arts Centre: 665195	Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel: 678956.
Hudson Youth City: 667816	Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel: 771331.
Y.W.C.A.: 641793	Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel: 775261.
Y.W.M.C.A.: 664251	St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel: 771751.
Amman Municipal Library: 637111	Amman International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Smeisat, Tel: 677534.
University of Jordan Library: 843555	Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabel Amman, 6th Circle (Rev. N. Sami), Tel: 811295.
MUSEUMS	Rainbow Congregation (International, Inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel: 669574.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 651760.	Prayer Times
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Cinder Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Holidays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	05:02 Fajr
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Museum, Jabel Luwibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel: 642400.	06:25 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel: 637169.	12:29 Dhuhr
	15:56 'Asr
	18:31 Maghrib
	19:54 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:20	.....	Karachi (PK)
09:15	.....	Agaba (RJ)
10:30	.....	Sam'a (Y)
10:45	.....	Jeddah (RJ)
10:45	.....	Cairo (MS)
10:50	.....	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:00	.....	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:35	.....	Beirut (ME)
11:45	.....	Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
12:30	.....	Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
13:40	.....	Baghdad (IA)
13:40	.....	Damascus (SY)
14:35	.....	Kuwait (RJ)
14:40	.....	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
14:45	.....	Tripoli (RJ)
17:45	.....	London (AF)
17:55	.....	Larnaca (RJ)
18:30	.....	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:30	.....	Paris, Damascus (AF)
18:45	.....	Los Angeles, Vienna (RJ)
19:25	.....	Beirut (ME)
19:30	.....	Cairo (RJ)
19:35	.....	Istanbul (RJ)
19:45	.....	Bangkok (RJ)
21:00	.....	Sam'a (Y)
21:00	.....	Damascus (SY)
21:00	.....	Baghdad (PK)
21:00	.....	Damascus (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:20	.....	Frankfurt (LH)
07:00	.....	Agaba (RJ)
09:00	.....	Beirut (ME)
09:20	.....	Athens, Rome (AF)
10:35	.....	Damascus, Rome (AF)
12:30	.....	Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:45	.....	Larnaca, Zurich (RJ)
13:40	.....	London (RJ)
13:45	.....	Antakia, Istanbul (TK)
13:45	.....	Istanbul (RJ)
14:40	.....	Kuwait (RJ)
14:40	.....	Baghdad (IA)
14:40	.....	Larnaca (RJ)
15:30	.....	Doha (GF)
15:30	.....	Cairo (RJ)
15:35	.....	Kuwait (RJ)
17:40	.....	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
17:45	.....	Kuwait (RJ)
19:15	.....	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	.....	Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Agaba port:

— Iyelin
— Closer Ace
— McDuff Van Norst
— Broad Eagle

Amin Kassar and Sons Company, with its new offices in Slamein, at your service, tel. 603703/15.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Tuesday rates
Local selling rates

Belgian franc	80.5/ 82
Dutch guilder	147.6/ 150.7
French franc	50.9/ 52
Italian lire	24.2/ 24.6
Japanese yen (for 100)	221.4/ 224.8
Swedish crown	49.2/ 49.4
Swiss franc	206.6/ 210.8
U.K. sterling pound	492.5/ 499.9
U.S. dollar	341.3/ 345
W. German mark	166.8/ 170.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively warm, with the appearance of medium and high clouds. Light and variable winds will become northwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman	.....	19/34
Agaba	.....	23/40
Damascus	.....	19/28
Jordan Valley	.....	19/41

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 34, Agaba 40, Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Agaba 21 per cent.

Rifai to meet Irbid officials, inaugurate projects on Thursday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai will Thursday visit Irbid Governorate to meet with representatives of private and public sectors and inaugurate a number of projects. Mr. Rifai is expected to attend a large meeting with representatives of economic and industrial sectors at the government house where he will also meet with Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak Tubeishat and parliament deputies representing the Irbid constituency.

Later, accompanied by cabinet members, Mr. Rifai will call at the newly-established University of Science and Technology and will also visit the municipality to inspect its projects.

The prime minister is also scheduled to open the Al Zahraa public garden established by the municipality and a centre for instructing children on traffic rules and regulations. Later he is scheduled to visit the Irbid Chamber of Commerce, the Water Authority Department and Princess Basma Hospital.

Ministry of Health organises dangers of smoking campaign

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Health is launching a campaign to combat smoking among youth and is enlisting the press and information media to promote their efforts.

A ministry spokesman said that the campaign, due to start in Jordan on Saturday, entails spreading awareness among members of the public against the dangers of smoking and the diseases to which smokers are more exposed and susceptible. The campaign, mainly directed at

20 to 30 year old people and those who have just started smoking, will involve distributing pamphlets, holding seminars and giving lectures cautioning people against the dangers of smoking, the spokesman said.

He added that posters will be put up in public places and along road sides calling on the public to avoid smoking. Health officials will also visit hospitals and conduct interviews with patients suffering from diseases related to smoking.

Jordan, Morocco sign minutes of labour, employment talks

RABAT (Petra) — Jordan and Morocco on Tuesday signed minutes of meetings they have been holding in Rabat over the past two days on promoting bilateral cooperation in labour related affairs, employment, social security and vocational training.

Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Al Haj Hassan signed the minutes for Jordan and his Moroccan counterpart Hassan Abbadi signed for his country.

In the minutes, both sides agreed to exchange information related to the labour force through a programme involving exchange visits by personnel and by holding periodic meetings to discuss labour and manpower development and cooperation.

They agreed also to conduct a thorough study on a draft agreement for cooperation in social security affairs and agreed that specialised authorities and departments in both countries consult in order to arrive at unified laws and regulations governing manpower employment. Jordan and Morocco agreed to study the prospect of employing skilled manpower available in either country in the other.

Mr. Haj Hassan, who arrived in Rabat on Sunday, held several meetings with Moroccan officials and Mr. Abbadi on implementing a Jordanian-Moroccan agreement on employment and labour-related fields.

Hijazi, Chinese team review bilateral ties, Mideast issues

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting delegation representing the federation of labour unions in China on Tuesday conferred with Deputy Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Ismail Hijazi. During the meeting, the leader of the delegation reaffirmed his country's determination to maintain strong links between the People's Republic of China and Jordan.

He said that China is firm in its commitment vis-a-vis Arab issues in general and the Palestine problem in particular. China, he said, supports the idea of an international conference to find a just and durable settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

At the meeting, Mr. Hijazi voiced Jordan's pride in its strong ties with China and said it hoped that these ties will be further strengthened in different fields.

Mr. Hijazi also reviewed developments in the Middle East problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict, pointing out His Majesty King Hussein's endeavours for achieving peace. He also referred to the situation in the occupied Arab land and Israel's drive to evict the indigenous population from their homeland. Mr. Hijazi spoke about the Iran-Iraq war and called on China to exert more efforts to bring the conflict to an end. Several deputies attended the meeting.

JEA concludes workshop on modern administrative methods

AMMAN (Petra) — A specialised two-day seminar ended its meetings here on Tuesday with a call to use modern administrative technology and methods to upgrade the organisational and administrative works of public institutions.

The seminar, which was organised by the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) in cooperation with the Jordan Institute for Public Administration, discussed means and ways of exchanging administrative and organisational expertise between various institutions which form the backbone of the development process in the country.

The seminar was inaugurated by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib. Participants in the meeting reinforced earlier calls for upgrading administration in public institutions and to reduce all unnecessary bureaucratic procedures.

The workshop noted the necessity of setting up a unit in each of the public organisations to deal with administrative development in the concerned institution, and to simplify the methods of work in view of the constant changes.

They added that administrative reform and development was a comprehensive and continuous process and they noted the importance of training people to learn how to deal with the modern technologies and modern concepts of administrative sciences.

QASWF moves ahead with survey on handicapped cases

TAFLEH (J.T.) — A project to reduce the incidence of handicaps will start in Tafleeh district before the end of 1986, according to Mr. Yusef Saleh, supervisor of special education at the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QASWF) which is currently conducting a survey on handicaps and handicapped people in the Tafleeh region.

The survey, which started on Sept. 18, is expected to be completed by the end of the month, according to Mr. Saleh. He said altogether 700 families will be covered by the survey, that is nearly 10 per cent of the total population in the whole area.

The survey is being carried out by nurses and trainee nurses together with their supervisors, in cooperation with government departments working under the supervision of a special committee that is organising the programme with the Ministries of Health and Social Development, the Cerebral Palsy Foundation and the QASWF.



Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an and U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Paul Becker Tuesday sign agreements under which the U.S. Agency for International Development will provide assistance to finance the import of commodities and to rebuild the road between Amman and the Dead Sea (Petra photo)

U.S. provides \$54.5m to Jordan through import assistance programme

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Paul Becker, and Mr. Lewis Reade, director of the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) in Jordan, Tuesday signed an amendment providing \$54.5 million as AID's second contribution to the Commodity Import Programme (CIP). This amendment raises AID's total contribution to Jordan's CIP to \$104.5 million for the programme's first two years and AID plans to provide the final increment of \$60 million for the CIP in U.S. fiscal year 1987, according to a press release issued by the American Centre in Amman.

Under this U.S.-funded commodity assistance programme, AID finances the foreign exchange costs of U.S. commodities and commodity-related services that Jordan needs to sustain its critical import requirements and to foster a higher rate of economic growth, the release said. A portion of these funds will be used to support Jordan's West Bank development programme.

It is planned that the \$54.5 million provided by this amendment will be allocated as follows: (1) \$24.5 million for the public sector; (2) \$15 million for the mixed enterprise category (Arab Potash Company and Jordan Phosphate Mines Company, for example); and (3) \$15 million to the private sector.

The \$164.5 million being made available for this commodity import programme is part of the \$250 million in supplemental economic assistance that was appropriated by the U.S. Congress in 1985 and is additive to the ongoing AID programme of about \$20 million each year. This is the 34th year in which Jordan and the U.S. have cooperated in joint economic development efforts, the release continued.

U.S. to help Jordan rebuild road between Amman, Dead Sea

Also Tuesday, Dr. Kana'an, Mr. Becker and Mr. Reade signed an agreement whereby AID plans to provide a contribution of \$25 million to Jordan's \$46 million Amman-Na'our-Dead Sea road improvement project.

The Amman-Na'our-Dead Sea road originates just south of Amman and extends to the north end of the Dead Sea-Ghor Safi road at the northwest corner of the Dead Sea. This key road links greater Amman with the Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, the West Bank and the southern port of Aqaba. The project will involve partial realignment of the road, widening of several sections to a four-lane divided highway, and

the paving of approximately 30 kilometres of the roadway.

Work on the road has been divided into four sections. Improvements financed by the government are already well underway on section I (from the Amman airport road to the Marj Al-Hamam junction). Both sections II and III pass through very hilly terrain, while section III includes areas where landslides have frequently damaged portions of the original road alignment. Section IV is an area largely below sea level where the terrain is relatively flat.

AID funds for the current reconstruction effort will support both construction and construction management supervision services by a Jordanian-U.S. firm for section II, III and IV, according to an American Centre press release.

This three-year U.S.-Jordanian road improvement project will be implemented by the Ministry of Public Works.

Over the life of the project, the government of Jordan is expected to contribute \$21 million, and AID's contribution is expected to be \$25 million (of which \$15 million in grant funding is being provided in U.S. fiscal year 1986 and the remaining \$10 million is planned to be provided next year).

French film treat

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The French embassy is organising a French film week starting on Sept. 25 running until Sept. 30 at the Royal Cultural Centre. Six recent films, representing contemporary French cinematographic productions, will be screened during the event.

"Trois Hommes et un Couffin" is the first movie to be shown at the film week. It is about Pierre, Jacques and Michel who share a fancy apartment and love their easy and luxurious life-style. But their life changes when a baby is found in a basket on their doorstep, they find themselves playing the role of good fathers. Their lives, however, also become more complicated when a second package is left on their doorstep. The film is directed by Coline Serreau who was an actress for ten years.

Claude Miller's "L'effrontée," is about two 13-year-old girls who lead completely different lives. Charlotte is an ordinary girl who lives in an ordinary home and who dreams of becoming someone exceptional and different. She would like to be Clara, who is also thirteen. But Clara leads an adult's life, since she is an exceptional pianist and a celebrity at such a young age. Even her problems are adult problems. Lulu is a witty six-year-old, and her idol is Charlotte. But Charlotte decides to discontinue her friendship with Lulu to wallow in her own fantasies of being Clara. The film digs deeper into the relationships of the three girls.

The next film is "L'Été Prochain," is directed by Nadine Trintignant and relates the story of three women: Sidonie, 20, Dina, 30, and Jeanne, 40, who lead separate but intertwined lives. They all have a different knowledge of love: Sidonie, a romantic, finds the man of her dreams. Dina is a woman of passion and Jeanne is a sensible and good natured woman who tries to leave her husband, Edouard, but comes back because he needs her. The women unite with Edouard when he falls ill and they all grasp the idea of the possibility of death; and their new lives are now enriched with an

experience they had not considered before.

"L'aise Beton" means "do not accuse," the title of Serge Le Peron's film. Two small-time delinquents, Brian and Nourredine, steal a film about a San Francisco rock tour made in the 1960's. Brian's father, who is now serving a prison sentence, was a rock star in that band. After a series of thefts, Brian is caught by the police. He is pressured into proving to the authorities that he will repent, or else his father's release on parole will be reconsidered. Brian then denounces Nourredine and the boys have to accept the consequences of all they have done after they enter an unexpected and different adventure.

Claire is a young school teacher who is the sole survivor of a fire that destroys her village. In "Zone Rouge," she testifies that the fire, which killed her husband, was not an accident but arson. Because she is the only witness, the authorities and everyone else do not believe her. But Jeff, a young man who has no interest in the matter, comes to her side after he finds evidence which supports Claire's story. The two start in intimate relationship and they try to become closer to each other. In the meantime, they are faced with violent acts against them; the film then takes us into suspense as the two manage to overcome and survive the violence.

"Edith et Marcel," directed by Claude Lelouch, is the true love story between Edith Piaf and Marcel Cerdan. The film exposes us to two worlds: sports and arts. Edith is a singer and Marcel is a boxer. They meet at a club in Paris, but Edith goes her own way. Years later, destiny causes them to meet again at New Jersey's Roosevelt Stadium, where Marcel has just become the middle-weight champion. And this time they fall in love, and their relationship continues until destiny plays another unexpected role in their lives.

The movies will all be shown at 8:00 p.m. in the main theatre of the Royal Cultural Centre and they are all subtitled in Arabic.

Regent discusses arbitrary nature of Israel's policies in the occupied territories

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday reviewed the Middle East question and the conditions of the Arab population living under Israeli rule during a meeting with a delegation representing the British Royal College for Defence Studies.

Prince Hassan spoke about Israel's arbitrary measures, directed against the indigenous population. Israel's drive to evict Arab residents from their homeland and to eradicate the Arab identity from occupied Palestinian land. Prince Hassan also reaffirmed Jordan's demand for an international conference to be attended by all concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), in order to achieve a just and durable settlement in the Middle East region. The audience was attended by Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and British Ambassador to Jordan Arthur John Coles.

Khatib receives delegation

The delegation, which groups teachers and students from the British Royal College, earlier met with Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib who replied to questions about

political issues and developments in the Middle East region. The minister also spoke about Jordan's national development plan and the Kingdom's information policies.

The British delegation were also received by Mr. Tayseer Toukan, the Foreign Ministry's secretary general, who spoke on Jordan's foreign policy. He also reviewed the situation in the Israeli-held Arab land, Israel's illegal measures and its seizure of Arab territory. Mr. Toukan briefed the visitors on Jordan's policy of extending support and help to the Arab population under Israeli rule to enhance their steadfastness and the country's endeavours to reach a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem through an international conference.

"Jordan will continue its contacts on the Arab and international levels with the purpose of arriving at the aspired

peace based on United Nations resolutions and principles which prohibit the occupation of other countries' territory by force," Mr. Toukan said. He also pointed out that Jordan does not seek partial solutions with Israel and cannot serve as a substitute or an agent for the Palestinian people or the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, because Jordan is committed to the principles of the Jordan-PLO accord signed in February 1985.

Mr. Toukan underlined the role which Europe could play in ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and also putting an end to the Iran-Iraq war which is now in its seventh year.

During the meeting, Mr. Toukan said Jordan rejects all forms of terrorism from any source. But, he said, there should be a differentiation between acts of terrorism and resistance against occupation which is the right of all peoples as approved by all conventions and international laws.

Mr. Toukan also referred to the tragic situation in Lebanon and said Europe could help bring an end to the suffering of the Lebanese people and also bring about a total withdrawal of Israeli forces from all of South Lebanon.

Palestine question coming to a head in Israel, U.S. foreign policy expert says

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A former U.S. assistant secretary of state said on Tuesday that no Israeli prime minister was likely to start peace negotiations on terms that would be acceptable to Arabs, because of risks of provoking civil war in the Jewish state.

Charles W. Maynes, who is editor of Foreign Policy Magazine, said there would be "a terrible fight and violent opposition in Israel" in the event of a decision to begin negotiations based on the "land for peace" formula.

"There is an extreme wing in Israel which believes that Palestinians should go to Jordan," Mr. Maynes told the Jordan Times. "The situation," he added, "may come to a confrontation — a disaster for Israel and Jordan."

Mr. Maynes, 48, warned that in Israel as well as the occupied territories, "people see civil war coming if Israel does not resolve the Palestinian question... people are anxious to move on this issue."

Describing Washington's position vis-a-vis recent developments in the region, he said, "There is a mood in the U.S. that issues have been internalised and that the battle for the future will have to be fought within the Israeli and Palestinian communities." He added that "this is not necessarily a good thing."

Mr. Maynes, who met with several Jordanian, Israeli and Palestinian leaders, said he feels there is anticipation and hope in the region that somehow, a U.S.-Soviet summit discussion on the Middle East may create movement in the region.

"If it doesn't, and the situation remains frozen, frustration will grow and there would be a much greater outbreak of violence than we've seen in years," Mr. Maynes warned. "Politicians and individuals feel that if there was no breakthrough in Soviet-U.S. relations the situation will deteriorate."

Divisions in Israel

Referring to the situation within the Israeli coalition government, he said that "they are sharply divided on how to deal with Palestinians in the occupied territories." He said that sharp differences existed between Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jews as well as between orthodox and secular Jews, on major policy issues. "Most of these issues are explosive," he said.

Commenting on the situation within the Palestinian community, he said there was a splintering of forces in the Palestinian community, "making it impossible to reach consensus, and difficult for Jordan to play a role."

Mr. Maynes said that Jordan's West Bank development plan

would need to be implemented carefully and would be "good if it stopped Israel from taking the land."

On efforts to establish Palestinian civil rule on the occupied territories, Mr. Maynes explained that it was important that West Bank leaders "should not appear as creatures of Israel."

Commenting on his talks here, Mr. Maynes said Jordanian officials have been realistic in their view of developments on the West Bank.

Mr. Maynes believes that in order for Jordan's development plan to succeed, "we have to undertake a delicate process of relieving Palestinians from occupation and build up confidence with moderate Palestinians. It is difficult, it will take some time, but it is not impossible."

He said the ideal situation would be for the PLO to accept United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 provided steps are taken on the Israeli side, such as a commitment to the same resolutions.

"It is essential that both sides should have some concept of what the final agreement would be like," Mr. Maynes said. "Israel should realise that it needs to come to terms with Arab states to survive and that it cannot continue to remain a garrison state," he remarked.

He said the U.S., for external as well as internal reasons, was having difficulties finding a way to support Jordan's call for an international conference. On the home front, "it cannot be done in an election period because it could be exploited by the opposition in the United States." Furthermore,

he added, Soviet participation in such a conference "would mean the Soviet Union would have a permanent role in developing policy in the Middle East," contrary to American will.

On prospects for a superpower summit, he said that the Daniloff affair has severely reduced the possibilities of such a summit taking place soon. He said the U.S. escalated the issue to the highest political level because of thin U.S.-Soviet relations.

Commenting on the overall situation in the region, Mr. Maynes said: "I am pessimistic that if we don't make one last big push for progress, and let things drift away and not seize the opportunity of modest progress reached in recent months, forces will splinter and things will become difficult to control at the local level."

He said the American media was not adequately covering the Arab side in the Middle East but that it was improving. "If things get worse in the West Bank — and they probably will — more attention is sure to be given," he said.

In a lecture he delivered Monday on U.S. foreign policy towards the Middle East and the Third World, Mr. Maynes said that although there was evidence that the region was becoming increasingly important for the United States, Washington's policies towards the region could be characterised as hostile and indifferent.

He gave another lecture on U.S.-Soviet relations on later Tuesday at the World Affairs Council. He was expected to leave Amman on Wednesday.

Zarqa to spend JD 12.283m on agriculture during 5-year plan

ZARQA (Petra) — A total of JD 12.283 million has been allocated to develop the agricultural sector in Zarqa region within the current five-year development plan.

Director of the agricultural department here, Mr. Izzat Muheisen, announced on Tuesday.

He said that the projects aim at increasing food production and developing forests and pasture land as well as promoting animal husbandry. In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Muheisen said that allocations have been made for increasing the cultivated areas of both rain fed and irrigated land to increase grow

more fruit trees. Nearly 15,000 dunums of land annually will be planted with forest and fruit trees around Birein, Sukheh and Zarqa, Mr. Muheisen continued.

He said that a station for grading, packing and storing eggs will be set up in Duleil at a cost of JD 557,000 and a slaughter house will be built in Zarqa at the cost of JD 400,000. Mr. Muheisen also referred to the Zarqa River Basin project which is being implemented at a cost of JD 5,411 million and said that the total area of land to be developed for agriculture within the five-year plan is estimated at 250,000 dunums.

Jordan Times Tel: 667171- 6

FOR THE FIRST TIME... FOR THE FIRST TIME... FOR THE FIRST TIME...

AT AQABA HOTEL Tel: 314091 and 314092

on the occasion of the West German Week and as of today and until Sept. 30, the AQABA HOTEL is pleased to invite you to taste delicious German food under the supervision of the German chef at the hotel.

FLAT FOR RENT

Consists of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting room, dining room, wall-to-wall carpeting, curtains. Location: Shmeisani, opposite the Comprehensive School.

Tel: 664362

PIANIST REQUIRED

San Rock Hotel announces a vacancy for a female pianist.

Interested applicants should contact food and beverage department in person.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975

الجزيرة الأردنية السياسية اليومية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Games in action

THE Israeli-Soviet dynamic is one of the most important links in attempts to launch a serious new Arab-Israeli peace-making process, revolving around an international conference or some such mechanism. We find it a hopeful sign that contacts between Israel and the Soviet Union are taking place at ever higher levels, which might lead to a situation where an international conference could be launched with the inclusion of all the pertinent parties.

The Israelis, as usual, with one eye on the American evening news spectacles, have tried to play the Soviet connection for all it is worth in propaganda terms. They say that the Soviets have to recognise Israel's existence before participating in an international conference. Of course, the Soviets have never unrecognised Israel's existence; they have only broken off diplomatic relations, to protest Israel's actions in 1967 and its attitude to the Palestinians.

Israel also wants a normalisation of ties with Moscow to include a Soviet pledge to allow more Soviet Jews to emigrate. This is a rather audacious demand that smacks of meddling in the internal affairs of other countries. If the PLO and the United States one day establish relations, should the PLO have the right to demand, for example, that the American trade deficit should not go much beyond \$250 billion?

There are many games being played in the Soviet-Israeli dynamic, though the net result should be a normalisation of ties that augurs well for regional peace-making and stability. It would appear reasonable that an Israeli-Soviet normalisation of ties should be followed by a similar move between the United States and the recognised Palestinian leadership, thereby putting in place a network of mutual recognition among the main protagonists that seems to us to be vital for any expanded peace negotiations. We are unlikely to see a PLO-United States agreement on mutual recognition in the near future, though it would appear that something in this direction is needed if the present stalemate is to be broken. Let us hope that reasonable people on both sides will prevail over the narrow, selfish interests of those who put false hopes in militarism.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan-EC talks

THIS week has witnessed Jordanian-European contacts involving King Hussein, who held talks with the British Prime Minister, and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai who visited Bonn, London and Paris. At these contacts and meetings the Middle East question and relations between the European Community and Jordan were the focus of the talks. The talks reflect Jordan's keenness on stimulating Europe's role to enable it to contribute more meaningfully to the efforts for achieving peace in the Middle East. Europe has throughout history maintained strong relations with the Middle East and therefore European countries no doubt are keen to prevent any outbreak of wars and hostilities which could endanger the European continent and affect its interests. The Zionists have been active in Europe for so long, trying to present the Arabs as terrorists and saboteurs, and therefore any Arab-European meetings in general and Euro-Jordanian talks in particular are bound to dispel such notions and thwart Zionist plans. The Euro-Arab dialogue, which Jordan is keen to promote and deepen in every field, is an open bridge between the two sides, reflecting the long standing links between them through history and aimed at reserving peace and stability.

Al Dustour: Israeli blackmail

THE Soviet and Israeli foreign ministers met in New York where they are both taking part in the current United Nations General Assembly meeting. For Moscow such a meeting represents part of its global efforts to try to solve regional issues and bring about peace and a settlement of conflicts. For the Israelis, the meeting represented a chance for exercising pressure and blackmail on the Soviets and a means for obtaining compromise on what Israel considers outstanding issues with the Soviet Union that should be solved for the sake of normalising bilateral relations. At the New York meeting the Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir tried to bring up the issue of Soviet Jews and their emigration to Israel and tried to place new conditions for Moscow's participation in an international conference over the Middle East question. These forms of blackmail and pressure cannot be accepted by Moscow and the U.S.-Israeli pressure on the Soviet Union over the case of Soviet Jews is totally disregarded by Moscow because it is an interference in Soviet internal affairs. We share the views of many others that such pressures would not yield any result and that the Soviet Union would never change its firm stand with regard to an international conference simply because Moscow cannot accept blackmail or allow itself to succumb to pressure from any source.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan condemns terrorism

THE previous United Nations General Assembly session was addressed by King Hussein who said Jordan strongly condemns and fights terrorism of any source. But at the same time he warned that acts of terrorism should not be linked with the just struggle of people for liberation and freedom. The King condemned all forms of killings and extremist policies against innocent people but, he said, that such criminal actions cannot be linked in any way with the resistance to the Israeli occupation of Arab land. Jordan has been committed to fighting terrorism, and King Hussein's message to the French president expressing support for France's actions against all forms of terrorism reflects this strong stand. The two terrorist attacks on an American aircraft in Karachi and the Jewish temple in Istanbul were aimed at undermining Islamic Arab relations, and the bomb attacks in Paris are designed to rekindle a state of hostility between France and the Arab World. These criminal actions in Paris are clearly designed to force France to change its stand vis-a-vis the Middle East question and end its support for Arab just causes. In the meantime, Israel is now escalating its terrorist attacks on Arab residents of South Lebanon and is intensifying tension along the Arab-Israeli borders in preparation for yet another aggression on the Arab Nation.

Japanese may restore the sheen to gold

By Riad Khouri

THE spectacular gyrations on the world money markets last week sent gold up. In an atmosphere of speculative mania, gold rose once again putting the metal back in the international spotlight. But how important is gold these days?

For a start, production of the stuff is increasing and is predicted to go on doing so. South Africa is still by far the biggest producer. The Soviet Union comes second, and the two countries together account for about two-thirds of annual output of the metal.

Canada, the U.S., Brazil and China produced about a fifth of the world's gold last year, with the rest coming from a large group of countries headed by Australia, Papua New Guinea, and the Philippines; and annual gold output is likely to grow as more countries continue searching for the stuff. Even Middle East states have got in on the act.

In the Sudan, one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world, a gold exploration deal was signed last year with a private firm giving it rights over a nearly 100,000 square kilometre area in the east and south of Sudan for 25 years. The government will receive 27.5 per cent of any gold

mined, with the rest going to the company which plans to invest \$10 million on exploration in the Sudan. In the northeast of the country a Canadian firm holds exclusive exploration licenses covering 87,000 square kilometres and has uncovered resources of 200,000 ounces. At the other end of the international wealth table, Saudi Arabia is busy exploring for metals in general and gold in particular. In an effort to diversify the economy, mining and mineral exploration is being encouraged, and gold deposits have been found near the Red Sea. Annual production in the 1990's may be just under 100,000 ounces. (And as if the Saudis didn't have enough economic luck, the same areas will yield an estimated 290,000 ounces of silver annually in the 90's.)

But demand for gold hasn't been keeping up with growing production. Industrial use of the metal is going up, but investor demand remains weak and central banks, the largest holders of gold, haven't really been doing anything to prop up the price. The fact remains that the dollar has gradually overtaken gold as the ultimate safe investment.

Unlike gold, dollar deposits yield interest and this makes them more attractive. The long term trend thus appears to be against gold in most countries, though an interesting exception to this rule may be Japan.

Only 13 years after lifting an import ban, Japan today is the world's highest importer of gold, with growing numbers of Japanese discovering it as a solid investment.

Japan banned gold imports in 1931 in a period of terrible economic depression. During the Second World War, the Japanese were required to turn in all their gold to the government as a contribution to the war effort. After the war, as the government desperately sought to legitimise the yen by building up foreign reserves, imports remained banned. But this policy was reversed amid increasing affluence; imports were once again allowed in 1973 and exports in '78.

Thus for over 40 years the Japanese were strangers to gold, and they now seem to be making up for this period of deprivation. This has been a boon for jewellery stores which are profiting from the

modern woman's craving for gold. In the past, Japanese women wore little jewellery, but this is now changing as the stuff is being looked upon more as a necessity than a luxury.

The Japanese seem to have a different pattern of investing in gold, buying it when its price is falling. European and American investors behave in the opposite way, trying to ride upward trends in prices. The Japanese have been spectacularly successful at making money and amassing wealth; is it possible that they know something about gold that the rest of the world doesn't?

Of course Japan is such an indomitable place that it isn't easy to try to apply Japanese economic ways in other countries. But if the Japanese are so interested in gold, there may be a lesson in this for the rest of us. Equally interesting these days is the market for another precious metal, platinum. Its price has also gone up and is now higher than gold's.

The reason why platinum has tended to overtake gold, especially since October 1983, has been the increasing political uncertainty in South Africa which

produces approximately 80 per cent of the Western world's platinum requirements. It is also estimated that at current prices world demand for platinum will exceed supply for the third year running in 1986, even if present South African production is maintained at 69 tons out of total world mine output of approximately 75 tons. Japan will remain the biggest single market for platinum with a probable 38 tons this year, followed by North America with 29 tons.

Because of the uncertainties over precious metal supplies considerable stockpiling has been taking place since 1983.

For months, forecasters have been predicting a break-out in the gold price partly based on Japan's purchase of 350 tons of gold in the first half of 1986 for coins celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the reign of Emperor Hirohito. But the catalyst for the recent price rise has been the decline in the U.S. dollar, falling interest rates in many countries and recent fears of a downturn in equity markets. U.S. institutions have been prominent in taking profits on stocks and bonds to buy gold.

The cloudier the economic outlook gets the more hesitant stock markets become and the better gold looks. Its contra-cyclical qualities have been forgotten in the euphoria of the longest bull market for stocks in history.

Gold has always been a classic hedge against a weak U.S. dollar and this is a more important factor than politics over South Africa, whose gold production is nowhere near the dominant percentage of platinum. Talk of driving the gold price down to upset South Africa is nonsense; any disruption of production there is only likely to benefit the price.

In other words, gold is set to go up in the short run, at least that's the opinion of a prominent Jordanian gold dealer. He says gold will go "a lot higher by the end of the year." He cites "technical" and "fundamental" reasons for this, among the latter being low interest rates, signs of inflation, the weak dollar, South Africa's problems and international debt. So if you're planning to buy some gold as a present for your mother-in-law or as an investment maybe you'd better do it now.

No end in sight to political dissent in Pakistan

The euphoria surrounding the return to Pakistan of Benazir Bhutto is evaporating, says John Elliott. Now, the country faces a period in which Bhutto, President Zia and myriad small political parties will seek to convince the people.

KARACHI — Pakistan is about to face a long period of political agitation, almost certainly stretching until well into next year, as opposition parties including Miss Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party try to force the regime of General Zia Ul Haq to call parliamentary elections before the due date of 1990.

Miss Bhutto has failed since she returned to the country in April from exile in London to force elections this year. Now, after her release from nearly a month in solitary confinement in a Karachi jail, she is likely to adopt a more cautious, pragmatic approach to campaigning, probably hoping to push the regime into a corner from which it cannot escape by the middle of next year.

The opposition movement was routed by the regime's security forces in August, when between 30 and 40 people were killed and several thousand arrested during demonstrations linked to independence day. That event pre-empted the opposition's plans for a major continuing campaign, possibly to include civil disobedience. It is now likely that this campaign will be a much more low key affair.

Miss Bhutto says that the single most important thing she learned in August was "to keep the timing of our actions firmly in our own hands," and not to be shunted off course by the Zia regime. "Recently, we were caught off-guard," she admits. "Now we will regroup and keep the heat on."

But the events of the few weeks appear to have jerked her out of the clouds of euphoria that almost inevitably surrounded her after the emotional welcome she received in April. Now, her supporters are saying she must work at building up her organisation to give herself a sound political base. Merely cashing in on her youth and charisma and on the memory of her late father, former Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was ousted from power in 1977 and later executed by the Zia regime, is not enough.

President Zia's rule has not been threatened with collapse by the events of the past month, but the hints of instability in the country are probably stronger than the president is prepared to risk. The U.S. government strongly disapproved of the security forces clampdown, a factor which is significant because the U.S. Congress will be asked in October to approve a new \$4 billion five-year economic and defence aid package for Pakistan.

By releasing Miss Bhutto and giving an amnesty to other political detainees, the government is trying to restore the relative stability earlier this year when both it and Miss Bhutto's supporters were trying to avoid violent unrest.

Mr. Mohammed Khan Junejo, the inexperienced but proud prime minister whose reputation has not been enhanced recently, also wanted to release Miss Bhutto so as to show goodwill and to demonstrate he was heading a democratic government. President Zia, the country's former martial law dictator, remains head of state and chief of army staff.

During the past few weeks, Pakistan's political lines of conflict have been slightly redrawn, with Mr. Junejo probably the loser. This was marked by a bizarre event in Lahore when Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Khar, a former provincial chief minister and governor who is widely suspected

of having mounted an unsuccessful coup last year against President Zia, flew in from exile in London.

Facing a 14-year jail sentence following charges of corruption and misuse of power when he was in Bhutto's administration, Mr. Khar was housed in a suite in Pakistan's most comfortable prison, where he later held a family reunion party.

The next day, a former leader of Miss Bhutto's party, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, who had twice refused offers from President Zia to be prime minister during the period of martial law, launched a new national people's party. The newly-arrived Mr. Khar is its likely secretary general.

Mr. Jatoi's party is being seen as more than just a new addition to the country's generally weak and (apart from the PPP) leaderless opposition parties. The idea is being encouraged that he has significant family links with the army and is an alternative to Mr. Junejo, should President Zia and top army officers run out of patience with the present prime minister, or feel that something short of the reintroduction of martial law should be put in the path of Miss Bhutto.

Mr. Khar is himself significant because he gives the new party potential strength in the key province of Punjab and, more deviously, because he could be wheeled into the public gaze by President Zia either in court or as a free man to remind the public of the excesses of the Bhutto regime.

Mr. Jatoi's new party is both a potential irritant to Miss Bhutto and, more importantly, a way of helping President Zia to reassert his authority over Mr. Junejo by parading a possible alternative prime minister.

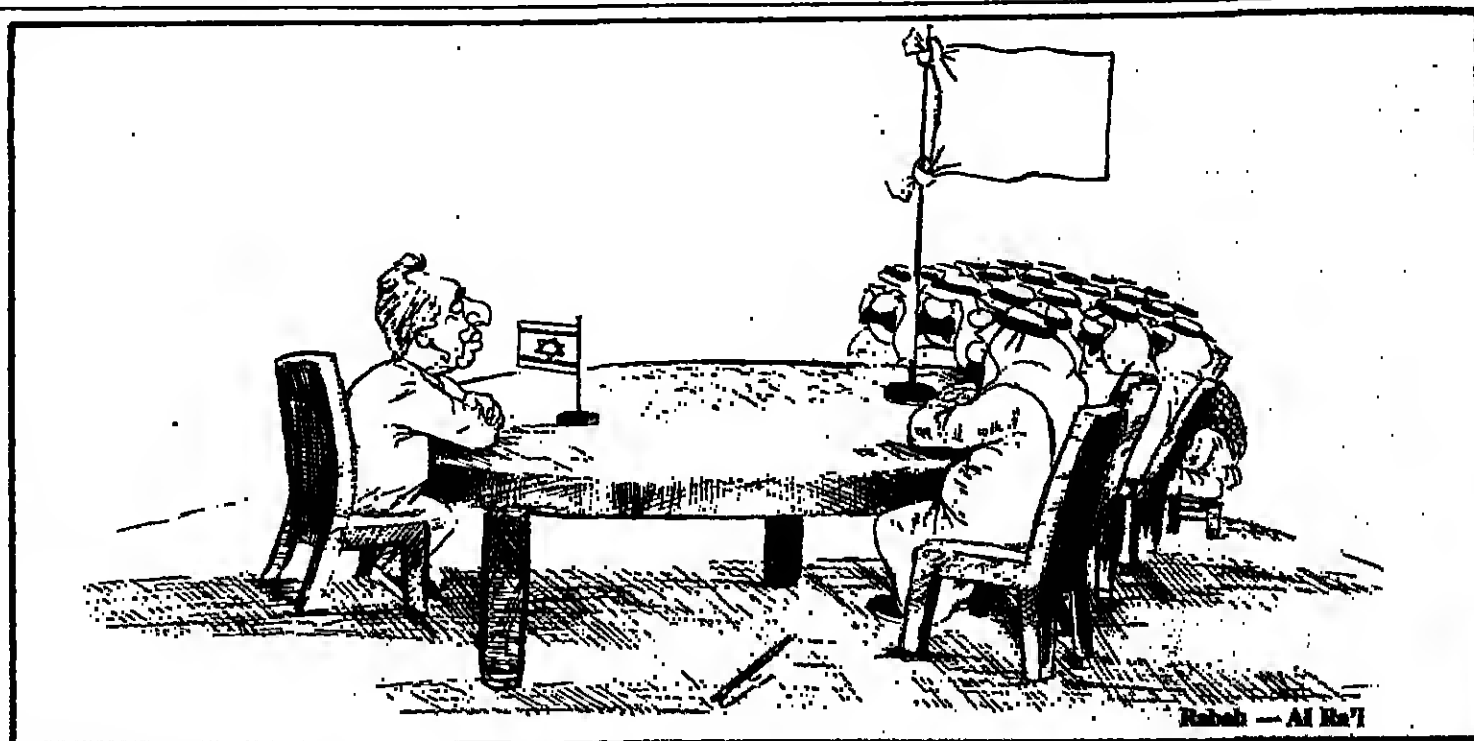
Mr. Junejo, with whom the president has had his differences, has just developed a widely publicised sudden ear infection which, together with the political problems at home, was cited as the reason for President Zia replacing him at very short notice as Pakistan's representative at the non-aligned conference in Harare. Mr. Junejo also cancelled a trip to the U.K. as far as ahead as October.

Neither Mr. Junejo nor his ministers command much respect and are widely accused of allowing the economy to drift. Ministers spend most of their time exercising patronage in their home towns and worrying about building up the ruling Pakistan Muslim League and resisting Miss Bhutto, rather than governing, businessmen say.

The economy survives in the short term because of substantial remittances from Pakistanis working abroad plus large amounts of foreign aid. Superficial wealth is boosted by a growing heroin trade. There is little basic industrial development, and Gen. Zia's preoccupation with staying in power means that controversial economic decisions are avoided if they involve long-term commitments which might cause unrest at some future politically inopportune time.

President Zia is often praised abroad for staying in power so long, with relatively little unrest. But as his 10th anniversary approaches next year, criticism that he has done little to build the country's political and economic base because of his preoccupation with survival is likely to grow.

Miss Bhutto, on the other hand, has yet to persuade sufficient people in the country that she offers a better alternative — Financial Times feature.



China prepares ideological drive to check economic reform

By Stephen Nisbet
Reuter

PEKING — China's top Communists are preparing to launch an ideological campaign to guide the country as it pursues policies that encourage accumulation of wealth, according to Western diplomats.

They said the campaign would start this month at a rare plenary meeting of the Communist Party's central committee, a gathering which some said might also serve as a sounding board for leader Deng Xiaoping's expressed wish for retirement.

Diplomats said the new ideological campaign probably would try to deal with the problem of how the Chinese can keep Communist values as they pursue new economic policies.

A declaration on "spiritual civilisation," promised by party general secretary Hu Yaobang, is expected to be followed by a nationwide publicity drive to disseminate the message to a public widely seen as cynical about politics.

Despite a swag of policy

experiments on everything from bankruptcy to free enterprise and share issues, diplomats spoke of "a feeling of disenchantment, of spiritual vacuum."

One noted "a plank in the ideological system" that had left young people especially adrift from traditional Marxist values. Diplomats said the reformers dominating Chinese politics under Deng's leadership wanted to correct such trends, claiming the moral high ground by asserting that civilised values and greater wealth went hand in hand.

"The reformers don't want to be seen as Marx-less materialists," one diplomat commented.

One diplomat said the tenor of the declaration was likely to be "positive, bright and open." Others said it would be hard to escape reference to the need for vigilance in combating negative byproducts of China's opening to the West, such as a rise in economic crime and corruption.

Campaigns featuring recurring slogans are a theme of modern Chinese politics. Calls for spiritual civilisation were first made in 1983 as part of a campaign against

"spiritual pollution," in which decadent Western influences were condemned. Earlier this year, the party revived a 30-year-old Maoist appeal to "let a hundred flowers bloom and a hundred schools of thought contend" to encourage more freedom of expression in arts, science and politics.

Diplomats said China's leaders wanted to harness citizens' energies more effectively in the country's modernisation struggle, but political reform questions were too touchy to be put on the agenda of the central committee plenum.

Leading members of the politburo discussed preparations for the plenary meeting at their seaside retreat of Beidaihe last month, but Deng said publicly later that it was too late to have a full debate on political reform.

Deng has stated that the aims of political reform should be to separate party and administrative affairs, eliminate bureaucracy and reduce the enthusiasm of the masses.

Although he stressed that the Communist Party must be "good

at leadership," Deng's ideas have already run into opposition from party officials at enterprise level who are reluctant to cede management powers to factory directors in line with Peking's dictates.

One diplomat said party bosses wanted six more months of debate on political reform before plotting their next move in such a sensitive area.

Diplomats said the plenary meeting was unlikely to produce important personnel changes, which are however on the cards for the 13th party congress about one year from now.

Some diplomats said Deng might use the plenum to canvass opinion about his desire to retire, before next year's congress.

But one said that whether or not he gave up his formal posts, Deng remained the final arbiter in Chinese politics. "Even if he sits at Beidaihe all year, he is still in charge," he said.

No dates have been announced for the party plenary meeting, but diplomats tipped it would take place in the last week of September.

Leniency backfires on the French

By Michael Goldsmith
The Associated Press

PARIS — Successive French governments of the right and the left believed they had bought immunity from terrorism by being lenient with the terrorists.

The tactic worked for years, but it is now backfiring with an unprecedented wave of bombings in the French capital. Eight people have been killed and more than 160 injured in the past two weeks.

In Iran, France has become known as the "little satan," while the United States is the "big satan."

Many French long thought of their country as a friend of militant "freedom fighters" throughout the world, and they seem bewildered by the attacks now. "I never did understand the Middle East," said a flower merchant on place des Ternes. "I understand it even less now. But I don't want (Premier Jacques) Chirac to give in to them under any circumstances."

The daily Figaro surveyed 800 French and found that 75 per cent consider themselves in a state of war against terrorists, while 70 per cent oppose any concession to terrorist blackmail.

On the surface, the immediate cause of the latest violence is the determination of a Lebanese Christian group to free Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, a reputed terrorist leader jailed in France for weapons violations and charged in

the 1982 murders of an American military attaché and an Israeli diplomat.

But the violence undoubtedly is rooted in the contradictions of France's Middle East policy.

The attacks seem to prove the futility of trying to play Middle East factions off against each other, as the French have done.

They clearly have failed in attempts to supply arms and nuclear technology to Iraq while remaining on friendly terms with Iraq's enemy, Iran, to foster equal relations with Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation; and to buy the freedom of French hostages in Lebanon by adapting their policies to the demands of the kidnappers.

Many French seem to agree with President Francois Mitterrand that the current wave of terrorism ultimately stems from the unsolved Palestinian problem. French governments traditionally have held that the Palestinians must be given a homeland in the Middle East if there is to be peace in that region.

France's involvement in the Middle East dates back to Napoleon's invasion of Egypt. Both Syria and Lebanon were governed by France between the two world wars, and France still regards them as an area of special interest.

France also has a history of more than a century of colonial rule in North America. When the

eight-year Algerian war of independence began in 1954, the guerrillas of the Algerian National Liberation Front gave France its first taste of systematic political terrorism.

This was followed in the early 1960s by the right-wing backlash of the Secret Army Organisation, which launched its own terrorist

campaign in a vain effort to keep Algeria under French control.

The experience had a traumatic effect on the French people and probably encouraged French governments to seek secret deals with militants of all shades in the hope of avoiding terrorism in France. Until recently, the policy was effective.

LETTERS

Bravo JTV

To the Editor:

IT was a champagne and caviar celebration for me and lots of other music fans when JTV started broadcasting the weekly Chart Attack programme. I have to admit it was a pleasant change from the outdated Baccara and Boney M songs we have come to know by heart. I am sure that lots of money is being paid for that programme and I am extremely appreciative to JTV for that. However, one can't help but notice that the programme is "doctored". I mean the same songs get played every week though they are going down the charts or have already been out (Sept. 9 episode). Sometimes the announcer talks about a song that should have been seen but mysteriously did not grace our screens (16). To top it all, the latter episode lasted a mere 37 minutes, stretched out 10 more minutes by playing songs that were already found their way to the graveyard long ago. I am sure thousands of viewers wait anxiously for Chart Attack every Tuesday night and I'm also sure they all join me in quoting a line from a not-so-recent Wham! hit: "If you're gonna do it, do it right."

David J. R.
P.O. Box 100
Amman

Occupied Halhoul—a town of grapes, figs, and resistance

By Sana Atiyeh

The writer recently visited the West Bank and filed the following report.

HALHOUL is a small, but well-known town north of Hebron on the occupied West Bank. It is mainly known for its delicious grapes and figs. But more so, nowadays for its people's resistance against the Israeli occupation of the last 19 years.

What makes this small town so remarkable in many eyes is its steadfastness and its challenge of the occupation. Its people are deprived of so many basic rights, and it is one of the West Bank towns that suffer most from Israeli practices and iron-fist policies. Halhoul is forbidden to have a club of any kind, and has no other societies. It is also forbidden to form an agricultural cooperative, although the town's inhabitants are mostly farmers. The occupation authorities have even withheld permission for paving a badly needed ten-kilometre stretch of road although Jordan is paying for the project.

I spent a week and a half in Halhoul in August visiting relatives and friends, enjoying the extraordinary season fruits, and the beauty of the land and its green hills. I listened to stories that occurred (and still do) between the Arab inhabitants and the Israeli authorities and violent settlers from the nearby Kiryat Arba colony, where racist Meir Kahane lives. I could imagine the perennial Zionist vandalism and provocation that Halhoul suffers from just by looking at how every window of a house, shop, and mosque is protected by thick metal bars making them look like prisons.

The main street through Halhoul that runs between Hebron and Jerusalem is always deserted after dark, not because a curfew is imposed but simply because of physical provocation

that occurs when the Kiryat Arba buses and cars pass, and all kinds of objects are thrown out of the vehicles at Arab pedestrians, causing injuries, some serious. Recently a boy of twelve on a bicycle was run over by an Israeli army truck which ran away, an eyewitness told me. The boy was still being treated in a Hebron hospital for broken bones when I was still there, the eyewitness said.

Halhoul's people are used to the ways of the Jewish settlers who pass through their town. But I was scared stiff one evening as I was walking to my uncle's house with my cousin, when an Israeli pick-up truck drove by, shooting two bullets in the air. (I found out that all Jewish civilians, including the elderly, women, and children, are obligated to carry guns.) When I asked the people how they could live under this terror, all of them agreed that this was their country, and that they would stay on their land despite Zionist attempts to drive them out.

One particular incident occurred Sept. 26, 1985 in Halhoul after an Israeli bus carrying Kiryat Arba settlers came under automatic fire while passing through the town. Hundreds of Jews attacked Halhoul that same night, stoning the houses and mosques, destroying cars, and setting shops on fire for more than three hours. Israeli soldiers did not interfere despite the fact that they were in town at the time. Some of the Arabs whose windows and doors were destroyed said the only possible thing to do was to turn the lights off and hide in the corners of inside rooms so as not to be hurt. But according to the inhabitants of Halhoul, it does not only take shooting at a bus to let the settlers attack them. It only takes a stone to be thrown by a kid. Throwing stones is quite common because children grow up knowing that throwing stones (and there are so

many stones) are the only way of fighting the enemy and reminding them of the Palestinian existence. So whenever a stone (or pebble) is thrown at a bus, random shooting from the bus happens even when there is not a bit of damage done. Not only do the Jewish civilians act on their own, but the authorities are known to arrest tens of youths for a stone thrown, and their families cannot locate them for months.

In Halhoul, every person of any age talks about their struggle and resistance against the occupation — rarely does one hear a woman gossip, but rather talks about how she had to fight for her son's release from prison because he was accused of throwing a stone, or how she had to hide her husband and sons when the authorities came to make random arrests. The teenagers talked to me about their demonstrations during their school days with pride.

Halhoul's students are never granted permission from the military governorate to carry out peaceful demonstrations. So they demonstrate and throw stones anyway. They feel they have to rebel in any way they can to prove their existence and their bitterness against the occupation. And most of the women encourage their children to express their feelings, despite the fact that they know their sons and daughters may be killed, injured, or arrested. Mothers want the resistance to continue, and not to allow the new generations to accept the occupation.

One high school boy was shot dead during a demonstration in the school yard a year ago. This boy was shot four times in order to stop him from throwing stones at the Israeli army. He, and many others like him who were shot dead, are now considered heroes.

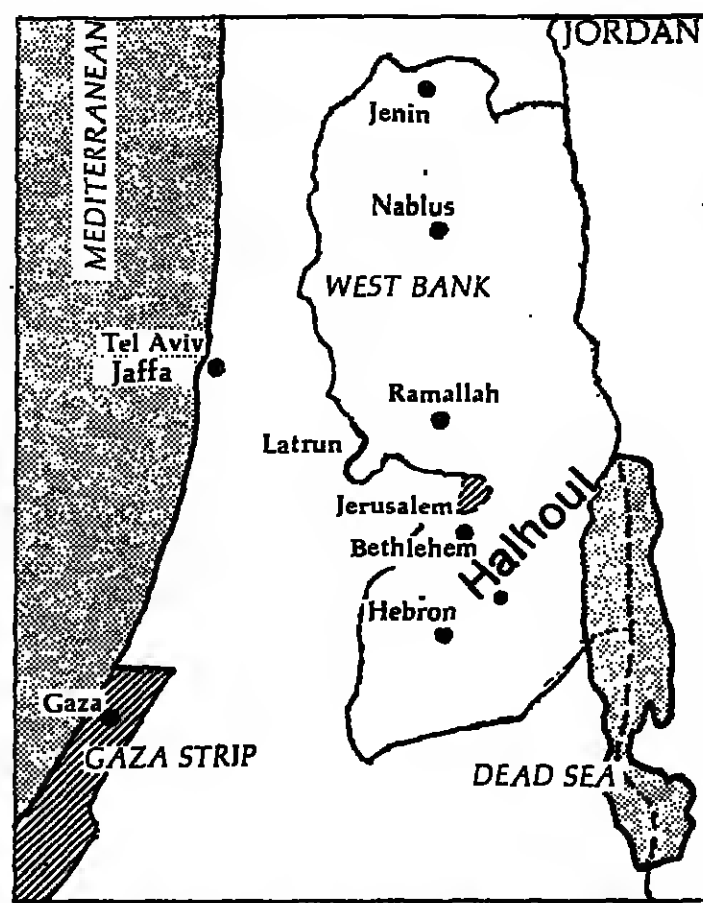
The occupation authorities are also known to pressure the students to a degree of cruelty. I was told that if a student threw a stone when he was twelve years

old, for instance, the Israelis would wait until he was grown up to the age of his taking the tawilhi exams, which is normally 18. The day before his first exam the army would arrest that particular student, keep him until the exams were finished, and then release him. This happens to at least ten students every year in Halhoul, according to the town's people. In the meantime, the students would be beaten so brutally during interrogation, and many of them would confess to lies in order to escape the unbearable pain.

One friend told me about one incident out of many he had come across with the Israeli authorities recently. A curfew was imposed on Halhoul once because there was shooting which later turned out to be two Israelis fighting each other. The town was allowed one free hour for people to go out to buy food and drink and to get some fresh air. So my friend and two of his friends were strolling when they saw an army car. They turned into the other direction to avoid any kind of trouble. The officers whistled to them, but they kept walking. The soldiers were upset, so they followed the three, grabbed them, and asked them for their documents. My friend gave them his Israeli identity card which was covered by an old piece of leather. The officer said to him: "Is this an ID to carry?" And he hit him hard in the chest with the butt of his machine gun. Another soldier hit him with his gun in the back.

"In such a situation, you don't think of the pain, but just getting out of their hands. Then they told me to get a new leather for my card," he told me.

The soldiers asked the second friend for his ID card, and he told them that he forgot to take it with him after changing his clothes. They put him aside. Then they asked for the third ID, which was in good shape, but hit him on the chest anyway. The soldiers then wanted to arrest the second friend, but my friend begged them not to,



and suggested that he would go to his friend's house and bring them his ID card.

"So the third friend and I went to his house and took his card. His mother found out and insisted that she come with us. She is a tough woman, like most of the women here. We went to the army car, where our friend was kept, and his mother said: 'You give me my son back or I'll kill you,' and she grabbed her son by the hand and took him. I gave the soldiers the ID card," my friend said.

"The captain came in another jeep. He shouted at us saying he could kill us all if he so wanted, because he had the power to do so. Then he said that if any trouble arose in Halhoul, he would make

sure to arrest us because he had all our names and ID numbers."

The people of Halhoul are used to the brutality of the occupation authorities. But they will not give up. The children grow up to know they are living under enemy occupation, and they learn to throw stones. They know that they will face harsh punishments, but they feel they have nothing to lose, even if their lives were at stake. "As long as our small but wholehearted struggle continues, there is still hope that one day our children and grandchildren will live in freedom and peace," one Halhoul elder remarked. "We are all at one on this. We will see the light some day."

Suicides fuel row over Italy's military service

By Clare Fallon
Reuters

ROME — A series of suicides among new recruits has fuelled a fierce argument against Italy's system of compulsory military service which provides two-thirds of the nation's armed forces.

Amid tales of bullying, drug-taking, illness and poor living conditions many parents have been further incensed by a government decision to exempt the Italian husband of Monaco's Princess Caroline, Stefano Casiraghi, from military service.

Nine suicides have been reported among young recruits since May and many families have blamed the deaths on depression over life in the barracks.

In the latest case, in late August, 19-year-old Ermanno Morelli, two months into his year's army service, shot himself in the abdomen when he was ordered back to barracks after a spell in hospital.

"He couldn't get on with military life," his father said. "He was deeply depressed."

Relatives of men who died during military service demonstrated outside Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini's office last week in protest at Casiraghi's exemption.

"Spadolini, we won't give you our children any more if you want soldiers to die yourself," shouted Concetta Conti, secretary of an association of families of victims.

Conti said her son died in 1979 after being beaten by older conscripts and thrown into a swimming pool at Vicenza Barracks.

Casiraghi, 26 next month, was originally exempted on medical grounds, with a certificate saying he had a genital tumour which could cause impotence.

In the midst of a parliamentary outcry over alleged irregularities surrounding his exemption, Princess Caroline gave birth to Casiraghi's second child, a girl, earlier this month.

A new exemption, under a clause covering Italians working abroad, was granted and the Defence Ministry said that while

recent medical tests showed no trace of the illness it could not rule out its existence in the past.

The families' association is pressing for greater public accountability among the armed forces — where nearly 260,000 of the 385,000 serving men are conscripts — in a bid to stamp out the bullying and beating which have been blamed for several deaths.

"The military is unmanageable," said Falco Accame, president of the association. "Not even members of parliament can visit the barracks unannounced."

The association says raw recruits, who must serve a year in the army and air force or 18 months in the navy, often face severe treatment, sometimes approaching torture, from conscripts nearing the end of their service.

Recruits have described one punishment, nicknamed "the thermo meter," in which the victim is stripped naked and left to stand outside in winter until he can guess the correct temperature. One guess is allowed every 15 minutes.

Turin magistrates opened an investigation recently after a 21-year-old conscript suffered a broken ankle saying he had been beaten by older recruits, and a father has demanded action over the case of his son who was ordered to bow 100 times before he could receive a letter from home.

Maltreatment also comes from officers, recruits say. General Franco Bosio, commander of an army barracks at Padua, faces a disciplinary inquiry after four conscripts wrote to a newspaper complaining of the force of insults.

"Such behaviour — assuming the accusations are proved — could surprise only those not familiar with Italian barracks," Accame says. "The soldier is considered only as a serial number."

Many recruits, bored and frustrated with the mental tasks they are assigned, turn to hard drugs, the association says. Some 3,500 cases of drug dependency among conscripts were officially reported last year.

Athens' Parthenon temple set for facelift

By Katerina Syriani
Reuters

ATHENS — Archaeological experts are taking the 2,500-year-old Parthenon temple apart piece by piece and putting it together again in a major restoration project to give Athens' best-known landmark a facelift.

Pollution, the weather, earthquakes, haphazard restoration attempts at the turn of the century and the feet of millions of tourists have taken their toll on the temple, the only one in Greece built entirely of marble.

Now the experts are using French equipment installed inside the Parthenon to bring down the slabs of marble one by one and lift them into place again after treatment.

Scaffolding covers the temple's east side, where work is in progress on the frieze, parts of which were cut away by British diplomat Lord Elgin in the 1801.

This sparked a row between Greece and Britain which still has to be resolved.

Plaster casts of the original frieze sculptures now in London's British Museum will be attached to the temple, said architect Manolis Korres, director of the restoration project.

The east side should be finished at the end of the year after three years of work, he told Reuters in an interview. "By then we will have treated about 100 pieces of marble, some of them weighing 10 tonnes each."

"We're not trying to rebuild the Parthenon but to mend some of the damage inflicted on it in the past," he said.

The restoration programme, financed mainly by the Greek government and the European Community, began in 1983 and is expected to finish by 1996. Korres said work so far has cost one billion drachmas (\$7 million).

The Parthenon, towering over the Acropolis hill, was dedicated to Athena, the ancient goddess of wisdom after whom this city is named.

Designed by Pheidias, the Parthenon was built in the fifth

century B.C. to symbolise the glory of Athens at the height of its civilisation under the rule of Pericles.

The temple remained well preserved until the 17th century when the Venetians laid siege to the Acropolis and the Parthenon was turned into a munitions store. The Venetians bombarded the temple in 1687 and an explosion destroyed a large part of it.

Further damage was caused in the 19th century when the Acropolis became a battlefield between Greek and Turks during the Greek war of independence from the Ottoman Empire.

Greek archaeologists say that Elgin also inflicted serious damage on the Parthenon by carelessly removing sculptures and smashing parts of the wall to reach those he wanted.

Greek Culture Minister Melina Mercouri has run a five-year campaign to win the sculptures back from the British Museum but has failed so far.

A series of earthquakes — the first in 426 B.C. recorded by the historian Thucydides and the last major one in 1811 — have caused the corners of the temple to shift outwards, making the whole construction unstable, Korres said.

During restoration work this century, stones have been cemented together and reinforced with iron clamps and rods which have since rusted and swelled, splitting the marble, he said.

The iron will now be removed and replaced by rust-proof titanium rods.

The restoration work appears to be causing little problem to visitors, who still climb up to admire the play of the sunlight on its sparkling white marble.

But the monument itself has been cordoned off and is off limits to visitors, who used to clamber all over columns.

"The greatest amount of wear over the years has certainly been caused by visitors who, until recently, were allowed to go inside the building," Korres said.



UNRWA operates six maternity wards in the Gaza Strip like this one in Deir Al Balah (UNRWA photo)



UNRWA's school health programme is a new initiative that proved great success (UNRWA photo)

UNRWA's services: Psychological help for youngsters

PALESTINE refugee children in the Near East will be encouraged to get involved in more recreational activities as part of a pioneering project to help them cope with their lives as refugees in the often crowded and stressful conditions under which they live.

In a pilot scheme in Baqa'a refugee camp, Jordan (population 55,000), health staff of UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) will be trained starting November to increase awareness in refugee families. UNRWA teachers and the camp community at large of ways of promoting the healthy social and psychological development of children.

The therapy, to include organised sports and other recreational activities, will be especially helpful for youngsters who have been uprooted with their families (sometimes more than once), have lost parents or close relatives in war, or have had to grow up in an atmosphere of violence.

The Baqa'a scheme is one of three pilot projects in the area of children's mental health. The Swedish Save the Children Fund (Radda Barnen) has made studies in two other camps in Jordan (Marja and Jabal Husein). Data

is now being analysed in order to prepare a programme for children in these camps.

The third project involves an evaluation of psycho-social needs of orphans. A study of children attending the annual camp YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) at UNRWA's training centre near Amman has just been completed and results are being analysed. Through group activities the participants in the Amman camp learned self-confidence and developed a sense of belonging to their communities.

Model project

The Baqa'a project is backed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), who see it potentially as a model for efforts worldwide to promote mental health services for children. UNRWA hopes to use the methods developed in the pilot scheme in other refugee camps in Jordan, as well as in UNRWA's other four fields — Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

UNRWA's health programme has so far focussed on the physical needs of children but there is now

a trend to deal also with their psycho-social needs. The trend embraces the elderly too, many of whom have been in UNRWA's care since the Agency's inception in 1950. Their uncertainty about the future increases the vulnerability of elderly Palestine refugees to psychosomatic disorders. Plans are now being made for a demonstration unit on appropriate care for elderly refugees in Amman with help from WHO.

These are some of the aspects of UNRWA's health programme discussed in the just-published 1985 annual report of the Department of Health. Also highlighted are the effects of recent developments in the Middle East on UNRWA services, the continuing successes of the campaigns against infant mortality and infectious diseases, and the promotion of self-help programmes to improve camp sanitation.

Tight budget

Dr. John Hiddlestone, Director of UNRWA's health department, considers the year's achievements "worthy" given the tight budget. The Department of Health maintained services for 1,845,175 eligible refugees both in and out of

camp with a staff of 2,946 for less than \$5.06 per refugee per day. The \$38.5 million spent on health services made up roughly one-fifth of UNRWA's budget for 1985. Contributions came from governments, United Nations agencies, the European Community and voluntary groups.

The Agency provides both in-patient and out-patient medical services, and basic environmental health services in refugee camps — including safe drinking water, sewerage and refuse disposal systems, and insect and rodent control. It also provides milk or supplementary food to babies, pre-school children, pregnant and nursing mothers, special hardship cases and TB out-patients.

In-patients are cared for in local hospitals and medical institutions where UNRWA subsidises beds for refugee patients. UNRWA has its own small hospital on the West Bank and operates jointly with the public health department in Gaza a 70-bed tuberculosis hospital. There are 30 UNRWA dental clinics and 98 health points and centres.

Dr. Hiddlestone said that the involvement of UNRWA teachers in health education in schools had been one of the year's big successes. "We've actually had adults coming to health centres

asking advice, based on what the kids heard from their teachers at school."

Health imperilled in Lebanon

Dr. Hiddlestone drew attention to the situation in Lebanon where, he said, "the health of refugees is seriously imperilled. Recurrently their existence is threatened, their family life disrupted, their food and housing restricted and they are entangled in a situation fraught with danger and uncertainty."

Health problems are also acute in the Gaza Strip, which Dr. Hiddlestone says lies under a "miasma of hopelessness." "There is a high incidence of asthma and ulcers, etc., which go with stress and strain." Tension is especially high for the many highly educated refugees crowded together in Gaza who are unable to get jobs. A similar situation prevails in the West Bank.

But despite interruptions in UNRWA health services resulting from demonstrations and curfews in the occupied territories and the war in Lebanon, most services were maintained.

Infant mortality down

According to the health

department report, 37,718 deliveries (including 359 still-births) were registered in 1985. The majority of these deliveries took place at home with the assistance of Agency supervised dayas (childbirth attendants) and in the six maternity wards run by UNRWA in Gaza. The registered births represent just over half of the total number of deliveries amongst refugee women eligible for the Agency's maternity services for the year.

As Dr. Fathi Mousa, UNRWA's senior medical officer for statistics and planning pointed out, the 1985 birth statistics also show a continuation in the steady decline of infant mortality among Palestine refugees. Dr. Mousa referred to a study of infant mortality in three fields released earlier this year.

The three fields studied — West Bank, Syria and Jordan — had infant mortality rates of 35.8, 46 and 39.5 deaths (within the first year of life) per thousand live births. Dr. Mousa predicts a further decline in future, as a recent project enhancing Agency staff's ability to pinpoint mothers and babies at risk comes to fruition — UNRWA press release.

To advertise in this section

Authentic Chinese food
Friendly service
Convenient location
Also take-away service

Open daily: Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle, opposite to Akhish Hospital

Tel: 641093

CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO

Authentic Chinese food
Friendly service
Convenient location
Also take-away service

Open daily: Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle, opposite to Akhish Hospital

Tel: 641093

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for lunch and dinner FRIDAY

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialities

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m. 6:30 - Midnight

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world

Tel: 864050 Tel: 2228 BESHMO JO

Cable: HUSHEBEN

P.O. Box 928487

AMMAN JORDAN

KORFIU GREEK TAVERNA

The First and Only Greek Restaurant in Jordan

- FULL CURE DR. MENU
- OPENED IN JSC AND ATMOSPHERE
- PARTIES & WEDDINGS
- (GREEK IN STYLE)
- PLUS SELECTION FRENCH DISHES
- TAKE AWAY SERVICE

Closed on Friday

TEL: 641585

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Alhijyah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m. 6:30 - Midnight

Tel: 638968

CHINA RESTAURANT

NEXT TO GRINDLAYS BANK

Take away service available

Open daily 11:30 - 3:30 and 6:30 - 11:00

AQABA

Tel: 03-314415

慕堂餐廳 MANDA RIN

Chinese Restaurant

The only traditional Chinese cuisine in Amman

Fully Air conditioned

Take away available

Open daily 12:00 - 1:30 18:00 - 23:30

Wadi Saqr a Road - near Traffic Bridge

Amman, Jordan

Tel: 661922

Japan's Fujiwara wins 3 gold medals in freestyle swimming

Jordan wins close game against Japan in men's basketball

SEOUL, South Korea (Agencies) — Freestyle swimmer Katsumori Fujiwara of Japan became the first triple gold medalist of the 10th Asian Games Tuesday.

In men's round-robin basketball, Jordan narrowly defeated Japan by the score of 73-70.

Iraq and the United Arab Emirates top the Group A soccer, each with two wins and no defeats, while Kuwait leads the Group D soccer, also with two wins and no losses.

China, meanwhile, added to its overall medals lead by capturing golds in swimming, shooting, diving and gymnastics and weightlifting.

World Cup and Olympic star Li Ning led a 1-2-3 Chinese sweep in the men's all-around gymnastics competition. The Chinese women — led by Chen Cuiling — scored a similar gymnastics sweep.

Elsewhere, China's Zhang Yiping wowed the crowd in the women's springboard diving.

In the swimming pool, China held its own against the Japanese, who had dominated early competition. After Japanese swimmers were fastest in four morning qualifying heats, the Chinese won two of the afternoon's five final races and South Korea, took one, leaving Japan two golds.

Asian Games records fell in all five swimming finals, bringing the swimmers' overall performance to 13 records in 14 events over the last three days.

In shooting, four Asian records fell and one was tied. Japan and South Korea each won three of the day's seven events and China won one.

Still another games record fell in 60-kilogramme (132-pound) class weightlifting, where China's Lai Runming won with a total of 285 kilogrammes (628 pounds). Silver medalist Yosuke Muraki of Japan matched the old record of 282.5 (623 pounds).

Japan's Mitsuo Ishii broke the Asian record of 1:08.397 in the one-kilometre time trial cycling event, winning in 1:07.506. South Korea's Um Young-Sup was

second in 1:07.687.

After three full days of competition, China led the medal standings with 19 golds, 17 silvers and 11 bronzes. Japan had 14 golds, 12 silvers and 13 bronzes, and South Korea eight golds, nine silvers and eight bronzes.

Malaysia and Thailand became the first nations aside from those three to win silver medals.

Peter Y.C. Lim won a silver for Malaysia in the trap clay target shooting and compatriot Nurul Huda Abdullah added a silver in the women's 400-metre freestyle to her two bronzes in earlier races.

Yamfang Rumpal of Thailand won her silver in the women's air pistol event.

Meanwhile, at Seoul's Yonsei University, several hundred students demonstrated against the South Korean government and the Asian Games, hurling rocks and gasoline-bottle bombs at police.

Witnesses said up to 1,000 students first gathered to denounce what they charged was increased government suppression under the pretext of successfully holding the games.

Students also charge that these games — serving as a dress rehearsal for the 1988 Seoul summer Olympics — are being staged at the expense of the poor.

Meanwhile, Fujiwara, already a champion in the men's 200-metre freestyle and the 4 x 200-metre freestyle relay, won the 100-metre freestyle in 51.56 seconds, well under the old games mark of 53.00. China's Shen Jiangliang was second in 51.69.

Japan's other winner Tuesday was Kazuya Ikeda, who shattered the games mark of 2 minutes, 8.33 seconds with a victory in 2:05.13 in the men's 200-metre backstroke.

But China's Yan Ming, already a gold medalist in the women's 400-metre individual medley, raced off with the women's 400-metre freestyle, beating



Li Ning

Japan's Miki Wakahoi. Wakahoi had beaten the games record of 4:25.72 with a 4:23.51 in qualifying, but in the final Yan lowered the mark again to 4:15.61 and Wakahoi finished third in 4:21.05. Abdullah was second in 4:20.49.

China won the women's 4 x 100-metre freestyle relay in 3:52.21, breaking the games mark of 3:59.27, and Japan was second in 3:55.62.

South Korea's Choi Yeon-Hee broke the games record of 1:06.39 as she won the women's 100-metre backstroke in 1:04.62. In the men's all-around gymnastics, Li Ning duelled for gold with fellow Chinese Yang Yueshan and won with 117.80 points to Yang's 117.25.

In the women's springboard diving, Zhang, 17, who won the Moscow International Meet springboard title in 1985, received 589.17 points for 10 dives.

Japan's other winner Tuesday was Kazuya Ikeda, who shattered the games mark of 2 minutes, 8.33 seconds with a victory in 2:05.13 in the men's 200-metre backstroke.

But China's Yan Ming, already a gold medalist in the women's 400-metre individual medley, raced off with the women's 400-metre freestyle, beating

Teammate Li Qiaoxian was second with 562.05.

At the shooting range, the Japanese women's air pistol team won a gold with a score of 1,128 of a possible 1,200, breaking the Asian record of 1,119. China was second with 1,127.

Japan's Tomoko Hasegawa also won the individual air pistol title with 481.3 to Yamfang's 479.2.

Japan added another gold in the men's small-bore rifle, three positions, as Ryohei Koba scored 1,261 to 1,258 for South Korea's Nam Hong-Woo. His 1,163 in qualifying broke an Asian record of 1,149.

But for the team title in that event, South Korea won with 3,471, breaking the Asian record of 3,415. China took the silver with 3,450.

South Korea's Byun Gyoung-Soo shattered 207 day targets for the individual title in the trap shooting, and Lim was second with 202.

South Korea also won the men's rapid fire pistol team title with an Asian record 1,766. The old mark was 1,762. China was a close second with 1,765.

For the individual title in that event, China's Li Zhongqi won with 694 to 687 for Park Jong-Gil of South Korea. His 595 in qualifying tied the Asian record.

More than 4,800 officials and athletes from 27 nations have come to Seoul for competition in 25 sports over 16 days. The number of participants is the biggest ever for the games.

Lee Jae-Hong, the games' chief press officer, said spectator attendance at all competition sites Monday averaged 60.3 per cent of capacity, with turnout ranging from 27 per cent at tennis to 100 per cent at gymnastics.

China accuses S.Korean shooting judges of fraud

SEOUL (R) — China Tuesday lodged a protest accusing South Korean judges of scoring dishonestly in the Asian Games shooting event as several records fell by the wayside.

South Korea with four golds and Japan with two shared six of seven gold medals at stake, but China said results in two events had been posted dishonestly.

Manager Wang Zhengfu, who on Monday complained that there were irregularities in scoring, lodged two protests over scoring in women's air pistol team and men's rapid fire team events.

Chinese marksmen missed the gold by one point in each. Wang, angered by Tuesday's scoring said: "It is not a mistake. It is intentional. I have protested."

Leconte emerges as winner

By Paul Radford
Reuters

HAMBURG, West Germany — France's Henri Leconte, throwing off the constraints which had earned him a reputation as an erratic tennis genius, has finally emerged as an out-and-out winner.

The extravagantly gifted Leconte beat Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia to win the West German Open title at the weekend, the biggest tournament victory of his career, and crown a brilliant series of results over the past four months.

Since the Italian Open in May, the 23-year-old left-hander has won 39 of his 45 matches, led France to victory in the world team cup and reached the semifinals of the French Open and Wimbledon and the quarter-finals of the U.S. Open.

His victory in Hamburg followed a Grand Prix title win in Geneva the previous week, a feat most observers would have thought impossible not so long ago for a player who had only negative associations with the concept of consistency.

Leconte's swashbuckling style of tennis has taken him to glorious victories over such top players as Bjorn Borg and Ivan Lendl. But if the Frenchman knew how to rise to the big occasion, he could also plumb the depths.

Each brilliant win was almost inevitably followed by an abject



Henri Leconte

defeat, promoting a broadly held view that Leconte might well be the most talented player in the game but that he would never reach any sporting summit.

His attacking philosophy, encompassing a belief that every point is there to be won and that it is not enough to wait for opponents' mistakes, has always made him a big crowd favourite, win or lose.

Leconte puts his greater consistency down to confidence. "I have a lot of confidence now. When I'm down, I never think about losing, I just try to come back. It wasn't like that before."

"I'm more relaxed, too. I don't think about computer rankings any more. I just go out to enjoy playing tennis."

Not thinking about rankings was

clearly had a positive effect on Leconte's computer position. After several years in the top 30, the Frenchman finally established himself in the top 10 this summer and before Hamburg rose to number seven, his highest ever placing.

Most people expected him to get there much sooner after he exploded on the international scene in 1982, beating Sweden Mats Wilander in the final of the Stockholm Open and playing for France against the United States in the Davis Cup final.

But his unpredictability caused his career to stagnate. Manager Ion Tiriac, now mentor of Wimbledon champion Boris Becker, got so exasperated by what he considered to be Leconte's lack of application that the two parted company two years ago.

American coach Nick Bollettieri once said of him: "He could be the number one player in the world. But he would have to get things straight in his head first."

Straight, however, is not what drives Leconte, whose clowning behaviour and mischievous grin belong to his game every bit as much as the vicious serve, audacious passing shot and punishing volley.

"I have to look at things in a relaxed way," he said after his Hamburg triumph, "otherwise tennis would be no fun. On the other hand I have realised I have to train harder to achieve success."

Valenzuela wins 20th game

NEW YORK (AP) — Fernando Valenzuela, a shining light in an otherwise dismal season for the Los Angeles Dodgers, no longer needs to explain to anyone why he has failed to win 20 games in his Major League career.

The 25-year-old left-hander, the National League's Cy Young award winner and Rookie of the Year in 1981, put that question to rest by pitching a two-hitter Monday night in a 9-2 victory over the Houston Astros that made him the first Mexican-born Major League pitcher ever to win 20 games in a season.

Valenzuela's teammates were equally happy, realizing that since 1981 a players' strike, poor defence, a lack of runs and a subpar bullpen have kept Valenzuela from reaching the magic number.

"If there's one pitcher in the league who deserves to win 20, it's him," said Pedro Guerrero.

Elsewhere in the NL, it was New York 5, St. Louis 2; Philadelphia 8, Pittsburgh 4; San Francisco 10, Cincinnati 7; Montreal 5, Chicago 2; and Atlanta 9, San Diego 8.

In the American League, it was Detroit 2, Toronto 1; New York 4, Baltimore 2; Minnesota 2, Kansas City 1; Texas 2, Seattle 0; Oakland 5, Chicago 3;

Amsterdam offers cosy, inexpensive Olympics

By Emma Robson
Reuters

AMSTERDAM — A recent bomb attack at the headquarters of the Amsterdam Olympic Bid Committee has failed to shake the organisers' conviction that they have a good chance of being awarded the 1992 summer Olympic Games.

"Our experience with handling international sports events, our modest budget and the cosy, friendly atmosphere we can offer will stand us in very good stead," Committee Chairman Krijn Reitsma said.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) makes its choice of the 1992 host city at a meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, on Oct. 17.

Amsterdam, like other candidates seeking the summer games — Barcelona, Belgrade, Birmingham, Brisbane and Paris — has a wide range of existing sports facilities.

However, the city plans to build an \$82 million Olympic stadium to replace the dilapidated, graffiti-covered relic of the 1928 games held here.

The new stadium and existing sports facilities, would be more than adequate to enable Amsterdam to stage the games, Reitsma said. There are also plans to build a sophisticated modern media centre.

"The infrastructure is all in place," said Sjoerd Kamminga, one of the committee's three board directors.

He was confident Amsterdam could overcome the objection of inadequate facilities which cost the city its bid for the 1952 Olympics, awarded to Helsinki.

The committee puts the total cost of staging the games at \$695 million and Reitsma said: "All we ask for is to break even."

An Olympic village will also be built to accommodate 13,500 participants and team officials close to the major sports facilities. But these costs will be met by the

city since it is part of a long-term public housing plan.

The bulk of the budget costs would be met by the sale of television rights, Reitsma said. He added that firm indications of support and sponsorship had been given by the Dutch business community. Proceeds from marketing the Olympic emblem would also be an important source of income.

Sport sponsorship has a strong tradition in the Netherlands, and big Dutch concerns would be

expected to support such a prestigious international event, Reitsma said.

He expected the compact games lay-out to work in Amsterdam's favour, with most venues situated within an 11-kilometre radius.

Venues and training facilities for 85 per cent of the athletes would be within eight kilometres of the Olympic village.

Amsterdam has a population of only 676,000 but is experienced in coping with large numbers of tourists.

WANTED

A full-time secretary to work with an international non-profit voluntary agency. Must have driving licence and be able to type English and Arabic. Prefer 3 - 5 years experience. Excellent English/Arabic typing skills needed.

Call 628760/656872

FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

First floor flat consisting of three bedrooms, salon, dining and sitting rooms, separate central heating and telephone. Location: Shmeisani, near Al Dustour newspaper and the French School (behind the Holiday Inn).

Call: 666651 Amman

WANTED

A full-time accountant to work with an international non-profit voluntary agency. Must be fluent in Arabic and English with 3 - 5 years experience.

Send application with telephone number to: P.O. Box 9363, Amman, Jordan

FOR SALE

Toshiba Photocopier Model 7511

For information contact 629571
Sealed offers accepted by 30 September 1986

SMALL APARTMENT FOR RENT

Complete deluxe furnished apartment with villa consists of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, bathroom, kitchen, heating system, telephone, big garden and garage. Located near Fifth Circle. Please contact 662215 all day, except at lunch time on 673521

SUPER DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Each apartment comprises one bedroom, living and dining areas, fully-equipped kitchen, bathroom, central heating, continuous hot water, intercom, a colour TV, central antenna for AM and FM stations, private telephone and air cooler.

Location: Behind Holiday Inn and near French School. To view call 655273, 663362.

TWO FURNISHED APTS. FOR RENT

— Second floor with 2 bedrooms, salon and dining hall, separate central heating.
— Third floor roof apt. with terrace, 2 bedrooms, salon and dining hall, separate central heating. Both located at Shmeisani, behind Barq Supermarket.

Please call: 664973

GARAGE SALE

Used and new items. Come and choose 25th Thursday from 4-7 p.m. 26th Friday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Shmeisani, next to Arab Bank and Haya Centre

Tel: 666948

MORNING CLASSES IN ARABIC

To start on Saturday 4th October, 1986 at the Specialised Centre for Languages and Training. You're welcome to register at any time.

For more information visit the centre Shmeisani - near Commodore Hotel or telephone 606528.

FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

Adjacent one ground floor of 2 bedrooms and accessories. Separate heating and telephone.

Please call 671860 after 2:30 p.m.

ITALIAN EMBASSY IN AMMAN

Registration is now open for Italian language course for beginners. For more information please contact the cultural office of the embassy.

Tel: 638185

VILLA/FLAT WANTED

American family requires completely furnished apartment or villa including 3 bedrooms, sitting room, dining room and salon with fully equipped kitchen. Preferable area: Abdoun, Um Utheina, Swaileh or Shmeisani (near Marriott Hotel).

Please contact Mr. Peter Zacher, Tel No. 660100 Room No. 1533 between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Go-Go West
The Great Cowboy Party
Country & Western Barbecue

So Giddy-Up, be the Wild West Winner!
Come dressed as Cowboy & Cowgirls
on Saturday September 27, 1986
8:00 pm at the Pool Terrace

10,000 per Cowboy/Cowgirl
Continuous Country
& Western Music
Live with the BAD BOYS
REVIVAL

Tickets available at:
NEW YORK REST.
JERRY
ALMA
Y.W.C.A.

Free Beer & All you can eat
YEAH!!!

Holiday Inn
Amman

<p>Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 622198</p> <p>SAVAGE STREETS</p> <p>Performances 12:15, 3:30, 5:00, 9:45</p>	<p>Cinema CONCORD Tel: 677420</p> <p>SWING SHIFT</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema RAINBOW</p> <p>JAGGED EDGE</p> <p>Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>
<p>Cinema OPERA Tel: 675573</p> <p>AURORA</p> <p>8:30, 10:30</p> <p>MY LUCKY STARS</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema PHILADELPHIA Tel: 634144</p> <p>TOUGH BUSTERS</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema PLAZA</p> <p>UNTIL SEPTEMBER</p> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4435/45	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3870/75	Canadian dollars
	2.0457/67	West German marks
	2.3113/23	Dutch guilders
	1.6507/17	Swiss francs
	42.37/42	Belgian francs
	6.6975/7025	French francs
	1411/1412	Italian lire
	154.10/20	Japanese yen
	6.9325/75	Swedish crowns
	7.3725/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.7125/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	434.25/435.25	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares closed easier after a firm start as early buying dried up, leaving prices to drift on lack of interest during the afternoon, dealers said. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 6.5 to 1,610.6 after 1,626.2.

Prices were initially marked up on the higher overnight close on Wall Street. But lack of follow through and the exodus of funds from the market for the imminent TSB share flotation saw prices settle back below Monday's closings.

Half-year figures from Lasso, waiving the interim dividend, cast a further dampener on shares, dealers said. Lasso finished 6p lower at 110 after dipping to 101 soon after the figures.

Government bonds finished with advances of as much as 1½ point on feeling that the recent sharp falls have been overdone. This outweighed the pound's weakness.

The higher opening on the U.S. credit markets further helped buying in gilts late in the session following U.S. data pointing to low inflation but a weak economy during August.

Late news the Bank of England bought sterling for marks in spot foreign exchange markets helped gilts stay firm towards the close. Hopes that the Bundesbank will cut interest rates at Thursday's policy making meeting had underpinned gilts earlier.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WED., SEPT. 24, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Although you can start out this day with some very good ideas and plans, you soon find that restlessness takes over and you give in to new interests.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle correspondence and reports. Show that you can keep poised under pressure of some sort.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Handle any matters of a practical nature since later an old situation may arise that needs attention.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you contact the right persons you can gain your aims far more easily. Stop being such a loner.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Confer with a superior and learn how best to gain a wish. Follow through and watch detail.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Gain your most cherished wishes and do the research work needed to get the right results. Be independent.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are inspired early but later situations arise that will take up time. Don't get discouraged.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take no unnecessary risks today at all. You can get fine results in public affairs today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have clever ideas and should put them in operation quickly to become more successful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't throw cold water on the ideas of a good friend since they can also be helpful to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Do some angling today so that you can gain your aims more easily. Later handle the mundane.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study the conditions at home and make those changes that are needed. Get the advice of experts.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Stop daydreaming and handle important matters waiting your attention. Show more thought for kin.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very capable at comprehending anything of a mercantile or practical nature and you would be clever to give a fine business administration education for best results throughout the lifetime. There are bound to be many changes in this life.

Moscow to liberalise trade next year

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union will next year introduce a major change in its foreign trade operations by abandoning the foreign trade ministry's monopoly over commerce with other countries, the official news agency TASS said Monday.

More than 20 ministries and 70 large enterprises will be granted the right from Jan. 1 to enter foreign markets freely, including those of Western and developing countries, the agency said.

Under the present system,

which has remained unchanged despite an enormous growth in the value of Soviet foreign trade over the last 20 years, the foreign trade ministry supervises all the country's export and import operations.

Soviet economists seeking a more decentralised system, and Western businessmen looking to buy and sell in the Soviet market, have complained that the ministry imposes unnecessary bureaucratic obstacles in the way of commerce.

The reform of Soviet trade has

been under preparation since last year and has run parallel with discussions which Soviet officials have had with Western businessmen over the possibility of setting up joint ventures on Soviet soil.

Moscow has also signalled its interest in joining the world trade organisation GATT (the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade), and this year asked for the first time to be allowed to attend a round of GATT talks.

British plan emphasises small-scale enterprises

EDINBURGH (R) — Britain Monday presented a new programme to fight unemployment across Europe, with special emphasis on encouraging small businesses, at an informal meeting of European Community (EC) employment ministers.

British Employment Secretary Lord Young told a news conference at the beginning of two days of talks that encouraging self-employment and small enterprises was the key to reducing unemployment in the 12-nation trading bloc.

"There is no longer a supply of large international firms moving around the world supplying vast numbers of jobs," said Lord Young, who is hosting the talks.

"We have to see self-employment and new small firms as the long-term answer," he added.

With 16 million jobless in the EC — 44 per cent of whom who have not worked for over a year and are classified as long-term unemployed — reducing unemployment has emerged as a central political concern for all 12 countries.

The British plan, drawn up with Italy and Ireland, puts a heavy emphasis on setting-up one person businesses and encouraging young people to start their own companies.

If there is broad agreement at this week's meeting, Lord Young said the blueprint could be formally adopted when the EC's council of employment ministers meets formally next December.

Other points in the British plan include a EC-wide anti-bureaucracy campaign, increasing part-time work and flexible working hours, encouraging companies to institute employee share ownership schemes and setting-up national training and counselling programmes for the long-term unemployed.

In an editorial Monday, the International Herald Tribune urged political action to cope with unemployment, especially among young people, throughout Western Europe.

"Unemployment among youth spreads apathy, like grease on a carpet... politicians have much to do if the fibre of rising generations is not to be sapped," the newspaper said.

Poland needs new loans

WARSAW (R) — Poland will be unable to service its Western debts of \$31.3 billion without new loans, according to an official report by Polish experts carried by the official PAP news agency.

"In talks with the Paris Club (of Western creditor nations) we made it clear that fulfilment of our (debt-repayment) resolve is impossible without fresh credits. New government credits last year were granted in insufficient quantity," the agency said Monday quoting from the report.

In the years 1971-1985 we contracted long and medium-term credits totalling \$46.9 billion, and our total repayments in that period were \$39 billion," the report said.

"Our exports must increase more quickly than our industrial production and national income or else our payments crisis will again deepen," it warned.

The report said Poland would emerge from its "debt trap" when annual export revenues equalled import costs and debt servicing.

"Whether that is achieved by the early 1990s or takes until the year 2000 depends on dynamic export growth, favourable prices and none too high interest rates," it added.

It said U.S.-led economic sanctions had seriously hampered Poland's repayment capacity, costing it a total of \$15 billion or "nearly one-half of our indebtedness."

OPEC keeps low output despite 3 quota breaches

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Oil producers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) have kept output below the ceiling of 14.8 million barrels a day agreed in Geneva last month, despite three quota breaches, a weekly oil journal reported Monday.

The Middle East Economic Survey, published in Nicosia, said total OPEC exports for the second half of September will likely drop further because Iraqi air raids have damaged Iran's oil terminals in the Gulf war.

The publication said the quota breaches were uncovered through monitoring of the Geneva pact carried out by a team of high-level marketing representatives named by OPEC, the review said.

The Geneva agreement limited production for September and October to more than three million barrels a day less than overall OPEC output in July in a bid to push up sagging oil prices.

The survey identified the three OPEC members who exceeded the agreed quotas as the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Venezuela and Libya.

"As far as Libya is concerned the problem appears to have been solved, as the Libyans have given an undertaking to stop exporting additional volumes from stock," the weekly said.

It reported that Venezuela was also exporting an estimated 200,000-300,000 barrels a day from stockpiles on top shipments from its quota of 1.55 million barrels a day.

But Venezuela insists it has not violated the agreement, maintaining that export levels are irrelevant so long as actual crude production was held within the quota, the publication said.

"Most other OPEC members strongly insist that proper observance of the agreement entails that exports plus local consumption should not materially exceed the crude production quota," the review said.

Saudi Arabia has warned that if Venezuela did not halt its additional stockpile exports, it would adopt the same principle.

The review said Saudi Arabia could easily export an extra 1.5-2.0 million barrels for a month or so if it wanted.

The review said Saudi Arabian production in the first two weeks of September was well below its quota of 4.35 million barrels a day.

"Attempts by other OPEC leaders to contact the UAE authorities on this matter have apparently met with no success so far," the review said.

It added that despite the problems with individual quotas "overall production by the 12 members countries bound by the agreement is estimated to have averaged only 14.3-14.4 million barrels in the first half of September."

"This has apparently been largely due to underproduction by Saudi Arabia whose crude output, according to official figures, excluding deliveries to Iraq and Bahrain's half share of the Abu Shafa field, averaged 3.7 million barrels a day in the first week and around four million barrels a day in the second week of September," it added.

Moreover, OPEC output is likely to be lower in the second half of September because Iranian exports from its big Kharg Island terminal have again been severely curtailed by Iraqi air strikes.

Sterling falls to record low

LONDON (R) — The British pound sterling dipped to a record low in foreign exchange markets Tuesday as the government forecast a sharp drop in North Sea oil revenues for the current financial year.

Dealers said sterling was under pressure amid expectations of a deteriorating balance of payments and the possibility of a Labour Party victory over the ruling Conservatives at the next general election. Most political analysts expect that to be held next year.

The pound fell to an all-time low of 69 pence of its 1975 value against a trade-weighted basket of 18 currencies in early trading before recovering slightly to 69.1 pence.

It fell below the psychologically-important value of three West German marks for the first time last week, Tuesday it was weak against the dollar, dropping to around 1.44 at one stage from a close of \$1.46 Monday.

Mr. Stephen Lewis of stockbrokers Phillips and Drew said he expected it to continue down to 2.80 marks and \$1.40 in the next three weeks.

He said the government was reluctant to prop up sterling by raising interest rates before the annual conference of the Conservative Party next month.

Such a move would make home loans and industrial credit more expensive and court unpopularity.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's ruling Conservative Party trails Labour in public opinion polls. Mrs. Thatcher must call an election by mid-1988 but is widely expected to do so next year.

Official figures published Tuesday showed that revenues from North Sea oil and gas fell from £12 billion (\$17 billion) to £11.4 billion (\$16 billion) in the 1985/86 financial year.

Provisional estimates from the inland revenue, the tax authority, showed that oil and gas revenues

would plunge to £6.1 billion (\$8.9 billion) in the current financial year to April 1987.

The government is due to publish monthly balance of payments figures Wednesday and analysts said they could reveal the first year-to-year deficit for six years.

Revenues from North Sea oil and gas have kept Britain's current account in surplus since 1980 but world crude prices, which have dropped from around \$30 last November to the present level of \$14, have hit export earnings.

Meanwhile, the dollar, which closed higher Monday in response to news of an agreement by European finance ministers and central bankers to support the U.S. currency, is seen stabilising for the short term, dealers said.

However, they said the agreement depends upon American support to be effective in the long run and added that this would only be forthcoming if West Germany accedes to American requests to reflate its economy by lowering interest rates.

But Treasury Secretary James Baker said Monday night in a television interview that Washington was at odds with the European decision to support the dollar.

"I think it signals perhaps a difference of opinion with respect to that issue... I don't know whether you would call it a rift or not," he said.

News of the agreement between the officials of the 12-nation European Community to intervene to stem the dollar's fall sent the currency sharply higher in early trading Monday before doubts over its long-term impact brought it down off the highs.

After falling last week below two West German marks for the first time in 5-1/2 years, the U.S. currency closed at 2.0295 marks Monday compared with 1.9865 at Friday's close. Earlier in New Zealand, news of the agreement drove the dollar as high as 2.0750 marks.

It was also higher against the Japanese currency at 153.30 yen, up from 151.95 last Friday when it fell to its lowest point since shortly after World War II.

Asked whether he thought West Germany and Japan needed to cut rates further at this point, Mr. Baker said he believed it was really important to have additional worldwide growth.

"The important thing is that we have to resolve these external imbalances that are represented by huge surpluses in Germany and Japan and huge trade deficit in the United States," he said.

Last Wednesday, Mr. Baker said Washington was prepared to force the dollar lower to help cut the \$200 billion U.S. trade deficit unless Japan and West Germany cooperated by lowering interest rates.

Throughout the summer, Washington has been publicly haranguing both nations to lower their interest rates in the belief that lower rates would accelerate their economies.

But both countries, worried about their export trade, have steadfastly refused to cut interest rates on the ground that their economies were growing fast enough.

"There is a lot of uncertainty in the market," said one dealer. "The statements out of the EC have been very impressive, but some dealers are unclear over how official they are."

In Bonn, Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg Monday called for a halt in the war of words between West Germany and the United States on interest rates and the dollar.

Bankers downgrade U.S., rate Japan as most creditworthy nation in world

NEW YORK (AP) — An American financial magazine says Japan has replaced the United States as the most creditworthy nation in the world in the opinion of international bankers.

Institutional Investor says in its September issue that bankers polled for its semiannual country credit ratings survey "have concluded that the United States is no longer the no. 1 sovereign risk in the world."

But the monthly periodical adds that "the Japanese triumph, which comes just two years after Japan supplanted Switzerland as the no. 2-ranked credit, may be short-lived." It notes that Japan is having trouble adjusting to the yen's spurt against the dollar and that "there are recession worries and unemployment worries that the Japanese are ill-equipped to deal with."

In the semiannual world survey of the creditworthiness of 109 countries, leading international banks are asked to grade each country on a scale from 0 to 100, with zero representing the countries most likely to default on their debts.

In the September survey, Japan is number one with a rating of 95.7, the United States second with 95.1, Switzerland third with 94.5, West Germany fourth with 94.2 and Great Britain fifth with 87.5.

They are followed by The Netherlands, sixth (87.4), Canada seventh (87.1), France eighth (83.9), Norway ninth (83.5) and Austria 10th (83.3).

Australia is 11th (80.1), Sweden 12th (79.4), Finland 13th (78.0), Belgium 14th (76.5), Italy 15th (76.1), Singapore 16th (74.5), Taiwan 17th (73.9), Denmark 18th (73.4), Spain 19th (70.4) and Hong Kong 20th (69.4).

At the bottom of the list is Uganda in 109th place and with a rating of 5.1. Countries with high ratings find it easier to borrow money and pay lower interest rates than countries with low ratings.

The United States' fall to second place really "shouldn't come as a surprise," Institutional

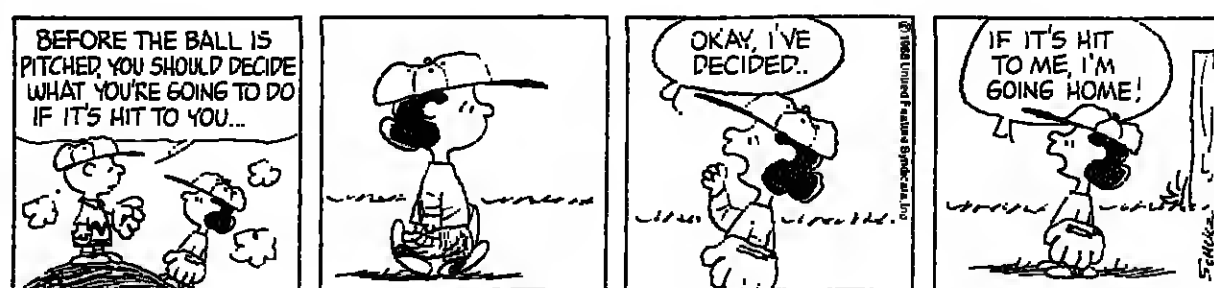
Investor said. "The U.S. budget deficit continues to swell while Congress dithers, the American trade imbalance gaps as wide as ever despite the tumbling dollar, and for the first time since before World War I the U.S. has turned into a debtor nation."

Meanwhile, Japan's "massive trade surpluses and resulting huge capital exports have made it a formidable force in international finance in recent years."

The average country rating, the magazine says, is 40.1. This is down a minute 0.1 per cent from six months ago, which indicates that international bankers' confidence in worldwide creditworthiness has declined very slightly since the last survey in March.

Other ratings include New Zealand 21st (68.2), China 22nd (68.1), the Soviet Union 23rd (66.7), Saudi Arabia 24th (64.9), Ireland 25th (64.6), Kuwait 26th (62.3), Malaysia 27th (59.9), United Arab Emirates 28th (58.6), South Korea 29th (58.4), and Bahrain 30th (56.1).

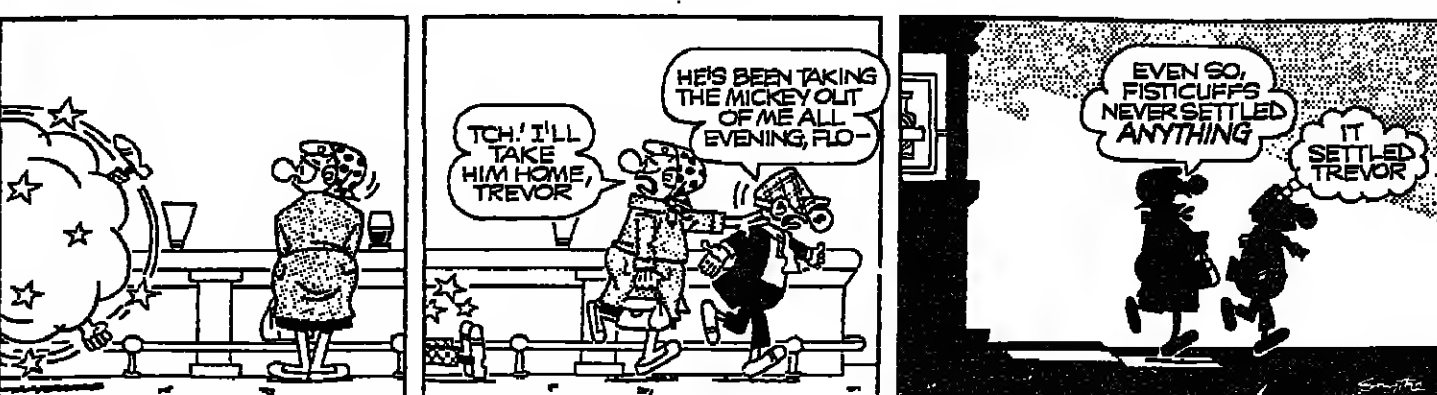
Peanuts



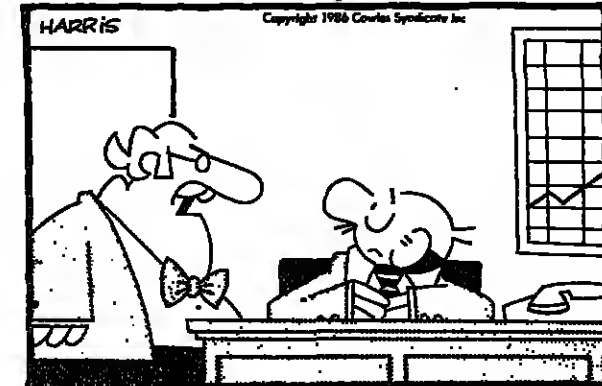
Mutt 'n' Jeff



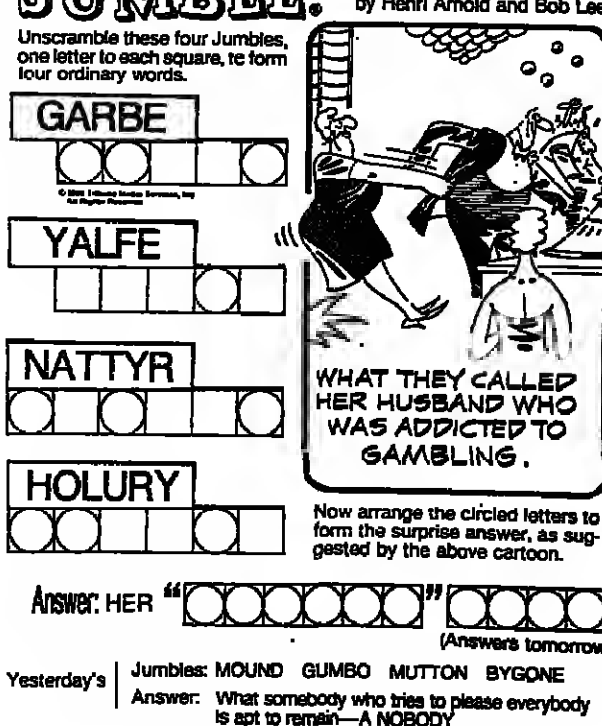
Andy Capp



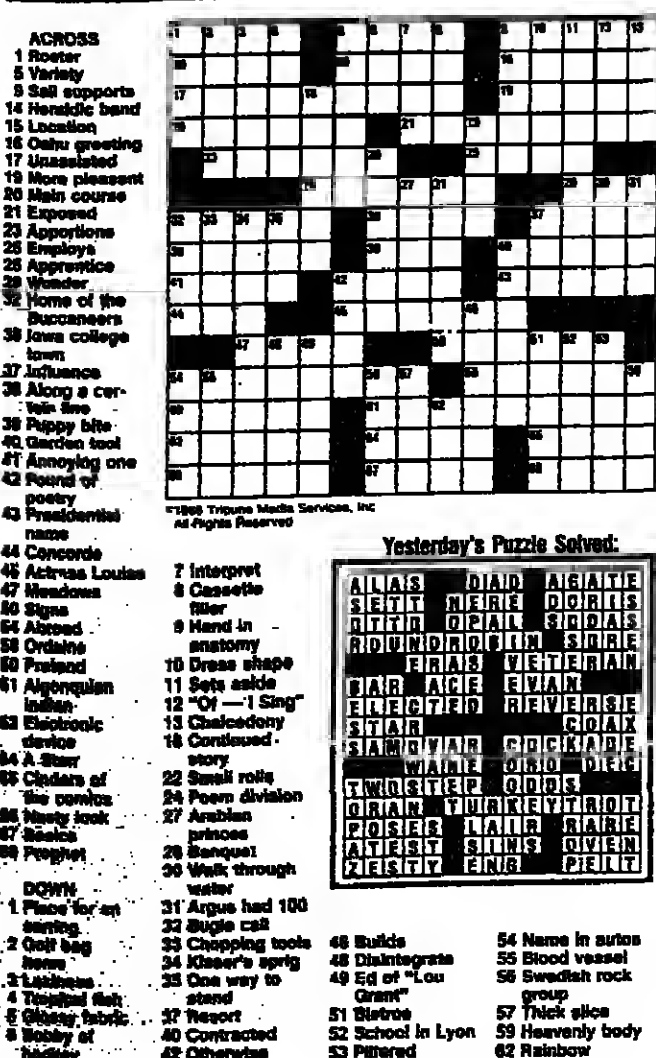
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten



Preparations start for European security conference in Vienna

VIENNA (R) — Austrian Foreign Minister Peter Jankowitsch Tuesday opened a two-week meeting to prepare for the European security conference starting in November which he said would be one of the most important political meetings in the Austrian capital since Napoleonic times.

Delegations from 35 nations — the United States, Canada and all European countries apart from Albania — began preparing the agenda and timetable for the conference, the third follow-up meeting in the Helsinki process begun in 1975.

Mr. Jankowitsch told the opening session there were parallels between the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the 1815 Congress of Vienna which settled European borders after the Napoleonic wars.

"In both cases there is a common attempt by the European powers and those linked with Europe to deal with a variety of questions concerning ways of living together on this continent, above all issues of security," he said.

Mr. Jankowitsch added that both conferences were aimed at creating a lasting peace.

The length of the Nov. 4 conference is one of the key issues the diplomats will discuss over the next two weeks. The Stockholm disarmament conference, also part of the CSCE process, concluded Monday with agreement on practical ways to prevent war on the continent. It ended three days after its formal closing date, when the conference clock was stopped.

Austrian diplomats organising the conference here believe it might have to be extended, so they bought a special clock with stoppable hands to make time stand still should the need arise.

The last follow-up conference in Madrid, called to review adherence to the 1975 Helsinki

Accords on security, economic ties and human rights in Europe dragged on for three years.

The Austrians are hoping the conference will end in August, but that, as well as the agenda, will be fixed in the talks over the next two weeks at the Hofburg Palace, former seat of Hapsburg Emperors.

The agreement reached in Stockholm, the only post-Madrid CSCE conference to end in success, created an encouraging atmosphere for the Vienna talks. "It sets the right tone for us," one Western diplomat here said.

But he said it also underlined the contrast with other CSCE areas in which there has been little progress. Other topics for the two-week preparatory conference include establishing the time allotted to reviewing implementation of previous accords and agreeing on the extent to which meetings will be open to the press.

The West will be pushing for more time to review the implementation and more access to the press.

Mr. Jankowitsch alluded to human rights in his opening remarks.

"Some barriers between people on both sides have been removed and others reduced," he said. However, "there still exists all too great a chasm between the obligations entered into in Helsinki and the actual practice of participating states."

"Time and again we must register grave violations of the final act. Time and again the positive trend, as a whole, is being interrupted by serious setbacks."

Austrian media on Monday reported two such cases.

In one, Czechoslovak border guards seized a pensioner picking mushrooms on the Austrian side of the frontier and held him for seven hours before letting him go, the reports said.

In another incident, a university professor, one of three Austrians invited by Prague University, was turned back at the Czech border. His delegation cancelled the planned visit in protest.

Afghan rebels renew fighting around Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — New fighting has flared around the Afghan capital of Kabul with Muslim guerrillas attacking government positions and killing as many as 15 Afghan soldiers daily, diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

The Western diplomatic sources, speaking on condition they not be identified further, said fighting had resumed around the city during the past week following a brief lull.

Heavy fighting began late last month and continued into the first week of September when guerrilla leaders said they had launched their biggest offensive in three years against Kabul.

The Western sources said guerrilla units were attacking government defence posts in the Paghman district north of Kabul and launching rocket attacks on the city. At least four loud explosions were caused by rockets last Thursday with one missile exploding near the airport, the sources said.

Afghan army units have been sent into the Paghman hills to fight the guerrillas, with Soviet air and artillery forces providing cover.

Large Soviet self-propelled 152 mm cannons were seen in action outside the city last Friday along with rocket launchers, the sources said.

Guerrilla forces shot down a helicopter in Paghman district on Sept. 12, but the sources were unable to identify the type or say whether it was Soviet or Afghan. The Western sources also reported that eight Soviet soldiers were captured in the region on Sept. 12 in a separate incident.

Guerrillas ambushed an Afghan army convoy in Paghman on Sept. 11, destroying six vehicles and causing many casualties, the sources said.

The Western sources reported high casualties among the Afghan troops involved in the fighting, estimating that between 10 soldiers and 15 soldiers were being killed daily.

Kabul hospitals were "unusually crowded" with military patients and wounded were being put in the corridors at the Wazir Akbar Khan Military Hospital because space was so short, they said.

NASA urged to redesign shuttle booster

NEW YORK (R) — Experts think the U.S. space agency, by modifying the design of defective shuttle rocket boosters to save money and time, is discarding totally new designs that might prove to be safer, the New York Times said Tuesday.

"The focal point of the criticism is the agency's quiet decision in recent months to reject, at least for now, any design changes that would require scrapping 72 giant steel rocket casings ordered six months before the space shuttle Challenger blew up on Jan. 28, killing its crew of seven," the newspaper said.

The booster is made in sections and assembled. Since 1977 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has known that launch pressures that made the walls of the booster bulge caused the booster's tongue and groove joints to rotate and gaps to open, the Times said.

The modifications since then had been aimed at closing these gaps which otherwise would permit the leaking of burning gases.

Earlier this year a group of NASA engineers drew up a plan for a radically different method of joining the rocket segments, one that bolts the segments together. While widely praised within the agency, the plan was set aside because it would have added weight to the vehicle and could not have been crafted from the existing casings," the Times said.

According to the paper, the chairman of the U.S. National Research Council, Guyford Steyer, said NASA was gambling that "it could fix the rocket's flaws without forging entirely new rocket casings, a costly process that could also delay shuttle flights an additional year or so."

It also quoted an engineer from NASA subcontractor Morton Thiokol as saying: "Everything is schedule, schedule, schedule..."

UFO mystifies Luxembourg police

LUXEMBOURG (R) — Police air traffic controllers and commuters were mystified by a mysterious flying object they spotted over Luxembourg Tuesday morning. Police said the object, which was also seen over Belgium, looked like five or six bright green lights travelling at high speed around 200 metres above the ground. Local radio stations said their switchboards were jammed by commuters ringing in to report that they had seen the unidentified flying object (UFO) which crossed the country from Germany towards Belgium. A police spokesman said: "We can't explain what it was. We thought at first it was a military rocket fired during exercises in Germany but no-one there knows anything about it." Marc Mitten, who spotted the object while working in the control tower at Luxembourg Airport, told Reuters: "It was like a rocket but far too fast. It wasn't a plane. It was five different things flying very close together." He added: "I didn't show up on the radar screen. I don't know what it was. It is the first time I have ever seen anything like it."

Reagan, U.N. chief stuck in elevator

UNITED NATIONS (R) — President Reagan got stuck in an elevator at the United Nations, along with his host, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and their security staff members. As it went up, the elevator stopped some distance short of the second floor of the general assembly building because it was overloaded, a U.N. official said.

U.S. secret service agents in the White House detail managed to manhandle the elevator doors open so that Mr. Reagan and Mr. Perez de Cuellar could get out, he said. Apparently the problem occurred because, in planning Mr. Reagan's U.N. visit, the secret service overlooked Mr. Perez de Cuellar's need for his own security entourage in calculating how many people would have to travel from the first to the second floor. As a result, the official said, the elevator became overloaded.

Thatcher longs for grandchildren

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, once dubbed by the Soviet press the "iron lady" for her renowned toughness, confided Tuesday that she was longing for grandchildren. Thatcher, who has 32-year-old twins, said in an interview with Woman's Own magazine: "Of course I would like some grandchildren — they are neither of them married yet. It would be marvellous to have young children about the place." She said it was sometimes difficult for her children, Mark and Carol, to have a famous mother. "It is very rough on them. I am only too painfully conscious of it. Most of us make our mistakes at the time of the light. I am afraid that has not been the case with them. Anything that happens to them tends to be in the papers. I do say there are sometimes a lot of penalties in being related to me."

Hundreds of G.I. brides to gather in Southampton

LONDON (R) — For the first time since they left their native Britain 40 years ago to be with the U.S. servicemen they loved, hundreds of "G.I. brides" are returning home for a reunion. The homecoming and four-day gathering which starts on Thursday is billed as the last event celebrating the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II.

Organisers say more than 250 women, many now widows, have registered to take part in the festivities in the southern English port town of Southampton from which they set sail for the United States. Between January and October of 1946, 70,000 U.S. brides sailed aboard U.S. naval vessels and oceanliners like the Queen Mary converted to military use to be reunited with their husbands whom they met when the men were stationed in Britain.

"We'll meet again," sang Vera Lynn in a popular wartime song that still brings to mind the countless romances of Englishwomen and American soldiers. New Dame Vera will sing the song again at the reunion.

1,000 attend National Front rally in Paris

PARIS (R) — By defying a government ban on an anti-terrorism rally, France's extreme-right National Front Party has shattered a rare political truce forged under the impact of a deadly bombing wave in Paris.

About 1,000 people attended the rally Monday night in front of the Opera House and heard front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen lambast the government's attempts to combat political violence.

The demonstration, held despite the official ban and pleas from Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, was called to protest against a series of five bombings which have taken eight lives in the capital over the past two weeks.

Police attribute the blasts to the family and friends of a jailed Lebanese left-wing militant, Georges Ibrahim Abdallah.

The front's decision to press ahead with the rally ended a general consensus among French political parties to go along with Mr. Chirac's handling of the crisis.

"The only consensus that interests us is a consensus for another policy," said Mr. Le Pen, standing against a backdrop of posters proclaiming "death to all terrorists."

The ex-paratrooper, whose party has 35 seats in the National Assembly, hit out at the unity between left and right following the terror attacks as a "consensus of inaction."

Mr. Chirac's government banned the rally on the grounds that it wanted to avoid giving bombers a fresh target and to relieve an already stretched police force from extra duties.

Mr. Le Pen refused to obey, although he did cancel a planned march from the Opera to the Place de la Concorde.

Accusing the government of

being too soft on political guerrillas, Mr. Le Pen told the rally that a return to the death penalty was the only true defence against terrorism.

Mr. Chirac is opposed to the death penalty, abolished by France's previous Socialist government.

"The fight against terrorism is a war, as the prime minister has said, but there must be a general mobilisation of the French people," Mr. Le Pen said.

He was the first leader of a parliamentary group openly to criticise the government's response to the bombing wave, which followed 15 attacks in two earlier spates of terrorism.

Responsibility for most of them since last December has been claimed by an underground Middle East group called the Committee of Solidarity with Arab and Middle East Political Prisoners.

The group, which over the weekend threatened more attacks in France, has demanded the release of Abdallah, suspected leader of a Maronite Christian guerrilla group.

Mr. Chirac, trying to cement a political truce rare in French politics, called in Mr. Le Pen and other political leaders last Friday for briefings on the government's anti-terror strategy.

The Socialists, the major opposition party, have so far given full support to Mr. Chirac in his effort to stem the attacks. Public opinion polls also show most French people rallying behind Mr. Chirac and Socialist President Francois Mitterrand.

The government has reintroduced visas for all visiting foreigners except nationals of Switzerland and the 12 countries of the European Community.

4 gunmen shoot guard at Islamabad airport runway

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Four gunmen reached the main runway at the capital's airport this weekend, then shot and wounded a security guard who challenged them, officials said Tuesday.

An airport security force spokesman said the gunmen were seen on the runway around midnight Sunday. A guard challenged the men, who then opened fire with automatic weapons, said the spokesman, who declined to be identified.

The guard was listed in stable condition Tuesday.

The incident at Islamabad airport followed the Sept. 5 hijacking of a Pan Am Jumbo Jet in the southern city of Karachi.

Four Palestinians disguised as Airport Security Force (ASF) guards seized the plane and killed 20 passengers when they opened fire inside the aircraft.

Pakistan's government had ordered immediate improvements in airport security following the Pan Am incident. The ASF has been issued new machine guns and other weapons and the number of airport guards increased.

But the incident at Islamabad airport indicated there were still security problems.

The Airport Security Force spokesman declined to speculate on the reasons for the intrusion at the Islamabad airport. He said authorities were searching for the four men, but no arrests had been made.

Airport sources, who declined to be identified, said the incident took place about an hour before a Saudi Arabian Saudia airliner was to land.

A British Airways Boeing 747 Jumbo jet also was scheduled to land about the same time as the Saudia jet.

Three Saudia offices in Karachi were bombed earlier this summer, but no one has claimed responsibility for the attacks.

The four men arrested in the Pan Am hijacking are being held in Karachi.

TASS: Hijackers were drug addicts

MOSCOW (AP) — A pair of would-be hijackers who killed two policemen and two airline passengers were drug addicts, the official Soviet News Agency TASS said Monday.

The gunmen killed two policemen, seized a Soviet airliner and killed two passengers before they were gunned down by KGB troops and police who stormed the plane in a Ural Mountains city, TASS said.

TASS identified the would-be hijackers as N.R. Mantsev and S.V. Yagmurzhiz, and said they were "drug addicts."

TASS said the hijacking attempt was on Saturday in the city of Ufa, capital of the Bashkir Republic and about 1,150 kilometres east of Moscow.

The TASS dispatch, which was issued quickly by Soviet standards, was the first report of a hijacking in the Soviet Union, since last December.

According to TASS, the gunmen grabbed a taxi in the city centre and forced the driver to head to the airport. Police gave chase, and the gunmen killed two militia sergeants.

It wasn't clear from the TASS account if the gunmen had intended to hijack the plane or headed for the airport to elude their pursuers. TASS also did not say whether the seizure of the cab triggered the chase or if police had already been pursuing the two men.

It said that when they reached the airfield, the two seized a TU-134 airliner with 76 passengers aboard that was en route from the Ukrainian capital of Kiev to the Siberian city of Nizhnevartovsk.

During their capture of the plane, the criminals opened fire

and killed two passengers," TASS said.

It did not say if the gunmen made any demands. The aircraft apparently never left the ground.

TASS said the two were killed "as a result of resolute measures taken by state security (the KGB) and militia personnel who displayed great personal valour."

The agency gave no other details, but its phrasing conveyed the impression that security agents stormed the plane.

"The crew and passengers were not hurt during the operation to free the plane," it said.

On Dec. 19, 1985, a lone hijacker commandeered an AN-24 on a domestic flight and forced it to land in north eastern China. The passengers and crew returned to the Soviet Union two days later, and China said it would try the hijacker.

Specialist voices concern about nuclear space debris

WASHINGTON (AP) — A nuclear junkyard in space is filling with debris from worn-out Soviet satellites, and poses the threat of collisions that could send radioactive debris falling to earth, a specialist has said.

Nicholas L. Johnson, author of a new study, said the problem could become serious if not checked.

"I liken it to other operations," he said in an interview. "When several years ago we first started dumping garbage in the ocean, it wasn't a threat then. But if you extrapolate continuing current practices, it gets worse."

Johnson is a scientist with Teledyne Brown Engineering of Colorado, which assesses Soviet space capabilities for military and civilian agencies.

He said nearly 3,000 pounds (1,360 kilograms) of radioactive debris is estimated to be orbiting in a region selected as a nuclear dump, about 600 miles (966 kilometres) above earth.

"At the levels we now have, with 40-odd reactors (in the region), the odds are that in the near term, collision will not be a problem," he said. "But if the satellite population continues to grow, the possibility of being hit by something increases dramatically."

One such collision, not involving a nuclear-powered satellite, is thought to have caused the explosion of the Soviet Cosmos 1275 in 1981. "There appears to be substantial evidence it collided with something," Johnson said.

The magazine Aviation Week and Space Technology says in its current issue that Soviet failures may have caused as many as six nuclear-powered satellites to fall back to earth, some of them into the Pacific Ocean, largely intact.

Satellites used for ocean surveillance by radar use nuclear reactors because their power requirements are greater than is practical with electricity-producing solar cells.

Under international agreements, once its nuclear power is spent, a satellite is split apart and its nuclear component is propelled to an orbit where it won't fall back to earth for hundreds of years.

"It's that procedure which failed twice since 1977," Johnson said. "The first was Cosmos 954, which malfunctioned in December 1978 and came in over Canada in January 1982. The second was Cosmos 1402, which came in (through the atmosphere) in two pieces, the reactor and fuel supply, in 1983."

Scientist sees no health danger from Chernobyl's Caesium 137

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Although the Chernobyl nuclear accident released about the same amount of radiation as all atmospheric nuclear tests and bombs ever detonated, there is no evidence it will cause detectable health problems in humans, a researcher who studied the disaster said.

Lynn Anspaugh, a biophysicist at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory near San Francisco which conducts research for the Department of Energy, said in an interview Monday that the Soviet reactor accident released "about the same order of magnitude" of Caesium 137, the primary long-term component in fallout, as all atmospheric tests.

Since there have been no obvious health effects from Caesium 137 released during earlier atmospheric tests, he said, there is no reason to expect them from Chernobyl, at least outside the Soviet Union.

"The reason I made that kind of comparison was really to indicate that the same order of magnitude of releases, as that of Chernobyl, had occurred before," Anspaugh said.

Anspaugh was elaborating on remarks he made last week at an American Nuclear Society meeting at Saratoga Springs, N.Y., to rebut claims that

hundreds of thousands of people could die from cancer caused by the nuclear mishap.

His study is one of several new Western analyses of the Soviet disaster since Soviet scientists formally presented their own findings a month ago at an international symposium in Vienna.

"I don't think it's useful or valid to speculate on the health effects of Chernobyl because most of the radioactivity will occur from the decay of Caesium 137 and it will be delivered at very low dose rates over very long time periods," he said.

"We really don't have any evidence that such low doses do, in fact, produce cancer in humans," he added. "I don't think there is any valid basis for speculation that millions will die from Chernobyl."

Earlier this month, John Gofman, a physicist from Berkeley, California, predicted more than a million people would contract cancer over the next 70 years as a result of the Chernobyl disaster.

Anspaugh said that even if scientists established that the Caesium 137 would significantly affect humans, there still was enough time to take protective steps.

"I'm not sure society would

want to make that kind of cost-benefit decision and I would not want to recommend it," he said.

He said protective steps would involve widespread use of potassium fertiliser to slow down the decay of Caesium 137, which would slow the release of radioactivity, or the mixing of clay with soil used in producing food.

"Those are some suggestions people in Russia have made," he said. "It wouldn't be cheap."

Meanwhile Soviet engineers have modified the operating systems and control rods in one of the undamaged reactors at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and it should be back in operation in early October, Soviet officials said Monday.

Deputy Premier Boris Y. Shcherbina, who headed the initial government investigation into the April 26 disaster, told the government newspaper Izvestia that the No. 1 reactor at the four-reactor complex will be the first back in operation.

He didn't specify a date for its return to power production beyond "early October."

The No. 2 reactor, Mr. Shcherbina said, "will follow" the No. 1 reactor into operation. But he also provided no prediction about a specific date.

The accident, which killed 31 people by official count, destroyed the No. 4 reactor. Officials have said the adjacent No. 3 reactor was not harmed, although the building housing it suffered some damage and officials cannot predict when the reactor might be back in operation.

Mr. Shcherbina said only that the No. 3 reactor "will not be operational for some time."

The other two power blocks lie about 400 metres away from the No. 3 and No. 4 reactors. Officials say they weren't affected by the explosion, but were shut down as a precaution.

The state-run television said Monday night that the status of the No. 1 and No. 2 reactors was discussed at a special meeting of the government commission handling the aftermath of the disaster.

In an on-camera interview, Anatoly Alexandrov, president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, said the accident had forced modifications to the No. 1 and No. 2 reactors.

Referring to the No. 1 block, he said, "a number of important changes have been made, design changes in some parts of the operating systems, in the positioning of control rods, and so on. The goal is to increase the

stability of the reactor's operation even in extraordinary situations."

The control rods mentioned by Mr. Alexandrov are graphite-filled tubes which can be raised or lowered into the reactor's core to control the nuclear reaction inside.

The government report on the Chernobyl disaster said improper positioning of control rods was one of six safety violations that caused the accident.

Mr. Alexandrov did not provide any details on the changes made in the Chernobyl reactors.

In the interview with Izvestia, Mr. Shcherbina repeated earlier reports that the No. 1 and No. 2 reactors will be staffed by workers who will stay at the Chernobyl plant for several days at a time, but will live in a new village called Zelyony Mys which has been built about 18 miles (30 kilometres) away.

Mr. Shcherbina said officials have decided to build a new, permanent city for the power plant staff within two years on the banks of the Dnieper River.

It was the latest indication that the city of Pripyat, which lies adjacent to the plant and was home to about 50,000 people, will never be habitable again. The residents of Pripyat were the first to be evacuated after the accident.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1986 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠72 ♠10983 ♠J9842 ♠94

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 NT Dbie Rdbie ?

What action do you take?

A.—You have not yet been invited into the auction. Partner has said he can beat one no trump, and he knows from the auction that he can't expect any help from you. If he runs to two clubs and that gets doubled, you might try two diamonds. But leave the decision to him.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠Q10832 ♠KJ553 ♠9 ♠Q10

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

Pass 1 1 1 ♠

Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—What an unpleasant development. Since you have already virtually promised a five-card spade suit, partner could have raised with three-card support. This hand has all the hallmarks of a misfit. We would pass before we get too high—it sounds as if partner has at least five clubs.

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠754 ♠83 ♠KQ107 ♠QJ62

The bidding has proceeded:

East South West North

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT 2 ♠

4 ♠ ?

What action do you take?

A.—You have a perfect for a sacrifice. Length in partner's suit, little or no defense, sufficient length in opener's suit to suspect that partner does not have too many, and the vulnerability is in your favor. Bid five diamonds. Not only should that not be too expensive, but it could even push the opponents to five spades where you

might have a chance to defeat them.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠AQ10985 ♠AJ54 ♠AK ♠6

The bidding has proceeded:

East South West North

3 ♠ 4 ♠ Pass 6 ♠